

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
05 JULY 2016**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENT IN TERMS OF RULE
20(B) OF THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS**

HON SPEAKER: May I have your attention, Honourable Members?

Honourable Members, I have been informed of the passing on of the mother of Honourable Priscilla Boois on the 2nd of July at the age of 86. Mrs Maria Boois was a veteran and a representative of the Elders Council in the Hardap Region. May I request you to observe a minute of silence in her memory.

HOUSE OBSERVES A MINUTE OF SILENCE

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. We move on.

Honourable Members, in terms of Article 59 of the Namibian Constitution Section 22 of the *Powers and Privileges and Amenities of the Parliament Act* 1996 and under Chapter 5 of the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament you are required to disclose your interests on a year basis every year. (Noise) Can I continue? The declaration for 2016 was due on the 29th of April 2016.

Honourable Members who did not disclose to date are reminded to do so

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with immediate effect on or before the 15th of July 2016, are reminded to do so on or before the 15th July 2016. In terms of the Standing Rules and Orders the Committee of Privileges will have to act accordingly with the defaulters and, if you ask me, I can tell you that I do not think that Honourable Members will expose themselves to that eventuality so I will count on your usual support and cooperation to do the right thing at the right time. The copies are available.

The copies which...*(intervention)*

HON DIENDA: Honourable Speaker?

HON SPEAKER: Yes?

HON DIENDA: I am asking can I just have a copy of the (indistinct) that you are saying.

HON SPEAKER: No, but precisely your case is very easy, we will give you a new form (*laughter*) Anyway for further information please consult the Legal Division because they can assist you. I am not going to deal with the actual details they will advise you accordingly. Okay we move on. Yes Honourable Dr Chief Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Comrade Speaker, I just want to find out maybe to be appropriate to see when you submit I would think we should have

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received those of us who have submitted to have received a token or a receipt to say (*laughter*) Just to say yes we received your (*intervention*)

HON MEMBER: Acknowledgement?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: An acknowledgement is a token yes. An acknowledgement to say yes we have received your submission.

Can that be done so that we can – because currently, I do not know whether we have to resubmit or it is there.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Member, thank you for that observation. I can inform the House quite a sizeable number of Honourable Members have actually gone through the exercise both a year before and this year. We have, however, a few that are still outstanding and it is those Members who know themselves to whom are we basically directing the reminder but I have noted your request we will certainly do that through email. We could do that to say (noise). It is just too many of you talking at the same time (noise). I think can we put this issue aside – we will act on it in our individual capacity as required? We move on.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Report and Papers? I do not see any hands. Yes, Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance.

TABLING: REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON ITHETE / HON MUTORWA**

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

- (i) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General on Debt Management within the Ministry of Finance for the Financial Years 2012/2013, 2013/2014 and 2014/2015;
- (ii) National Planning Commission for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2015;
- (iii) Anti-Corruption Commission for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2015;
- (iv) Game Products Trust Fund for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2015; and
- (v) Karakul Board of Namibia for the financial years ended 31 March 2014 and 2015.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable John Mutorwa.

TABLING: ANNUAL REPORT OF NAMWATER

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:
Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

I lay upon the table the Annual Report of the Namibia Water Corporation

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON KATOMA**

(NAMWATER) for the year 2015 for the appropriate handling and scrutiny by the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee under the able leadership of my Colleague, Honourable Michael Kavekatora.

I so Move.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON MEMBER: Michael? (*Laughter*)

HON SPEAKER: Next is the Honourable Katoma please.

**TABLING: INSPECTION VISIT TO
POLICE STATIONS, CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

HON KATOMA: Thank you Honourable Speaker.

I lay upon the table for consideration report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security on the inspection visit to Police Stations, Correctional Facilities, Home Affairs and Immigration, Military Bases and Capital Projects in the Otjozondjupa Region during the period of 25 to 26 July 2015.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**ORAL QUESTION
HON VENAANI**

HON SPEAKER: Is the Report for discussion or for noting?

HON KATOMA: Yes, for consideration, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Notices of Questions? Honourable Venaani.

ORAL QUESTION

HON VENAANI: Honourable Speaker, I seek your indulgence to ask an oral question to the Right Honourable Prime Minister quite very urgently. (Noise) You are not Speaker. You will never be Speakers just keep quiet.

Thank you very much for that indulgence, Honourable Speaker, this is quite a very serious question.

I am reading with concern that our northern neighbour Angola is entering economic difficulties. Now, having noted that they are entering serious economic difficulties in that neighbouring country our Government through the currency exchange is owed or our country is owed N\$5.5 billion on the Kwanza/Namibian dollar exchange. N\$5.5 billion is owed by Angola. I would like to know the Prime Minister is the leader of the Government business (intervention).

RT HON PRIME MINISTER: (Indistinct).

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**ORAL QUESTION
HON VENAANI**

HON VENAANI: No, you are the leader of the Government. You are the leader you cannot abscond to answer on behalf of your Government because you lead the Government.

What we want to know is; Right Honourable Prime Minister, do we have assurance that this N\$5.5 billion would be paid? What are the risks that are involved with this N\$5.5 billion? Can you listen to the question? The Prime Minister – can I be protected Speaker?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON VENAANI: Against the Prime Minister, no Prime Minister on a serious note, are we not going to lose this N\$5.5 billion owed to us?

Is a system in place where this money is repaid, and how is the repayment going at this point in time, because it is a lot of money that is involved we just want assurance from you as leader of Government Business that this Bill is still on track and we are going to get the money? Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Right Honourable Prime Minister.

RESPONSE TO ORAL QUESTION

RT HON PRIME MINISTER: Thank you. I agree that the issue is an important one, but I believe that the Honourable Member is belittling the issue by trying to put it the way that he has done.

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**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON VAN DER WALT**

Firstly, this is not news, it is an issue that has been out there in the public, and if the Honourable Member really wanted to receive information on this issue he would give notice of the question and he would actually get that information from the line Minister.

Never mind if he does not wish to receive this information from the line Minister, as is required under our rules, and would rather only be responded to by the Prime Minister, which seems to be the principle that he holds he should put that question in writing and give notice and I will give him an answer.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I thank the Honourable Member.

Any Notices of Motions? Yes, I have the Honourable Piet Van der Walt.

NOTICE OF MOTION

RATIFICATION OF ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE & SME DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

I give notice that tomorrow, Wednesday the 6th of July, I shall Move in this Assembly ratifies Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between European Union (EU) and seven of the thirteen Member States of the Southern African Development Community, also referred to a SADC EPA Group.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON MUTORWA**

I so Move Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Messages from the Head of State? Ministerial Statements? Honourable Mutorwa.

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT IN TERMS OF
RULE 98 OF THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS**

MARKET ACCESS FOR LIVESTOCKE PRODUCERS

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:
Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

I would like to make a Ministerial Statement with regards to market access for livestock producers in the northern communal areas of Namibia.

Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members of the National Assembly Article 40 sub Clause (e) of the Namibian Constitution articulates the duties of the Members of the Namibian Cabinet as follows and I quote, *“To attend meetings of the National Assembly and to be available for the purposes of any queries and debates pertaining to the legitimacy, wisdom, effectiveness and direction of Government polities”*.

I am rising, Honourable Speaker, in terms of the said Article that also in accordance with the relevant provisions of our Standing Rules and Orders provide some information with regards to the very topical subject matter of the Veterinary Condome Fence and the issue of market upsets for

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
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livestock producers in the northern communal areas of Namibia particularly during this time when our country is still going through a persistent and severe prolonged drought.

For the issues of the Veterinary Condone Fence, particularly following the 2015 foot and mouth disease outbreak and its effects and consequences, and more especially with regards to the market of livestock and the visible effects of the 2016 drought, are more than very current and sceptical issues indeed, hence the need for the Government of the Republic of Namibia through the line Ministry responsible for livestock to provide the regular updates to the citizens and residents of and in our country.

Honourable Speaker, you may also recall that the Honourable Muharukwa Member of Parliament of and for the DTA in the National Assembly, DTA of Namibia yes directed some pertinent questions to the Right Honourable Prime Minister as the leader of Government business in the House, which questions I shall also attempt to cover through this progress report that I am providing now.

Something about the Veterinary Condone Fence, the original intent of the Veterinary condone fence, which was erected in the 1960s was to prevent the spread of animal diseases particularly foot and mouth disease from northern Namibia into central Namibia.

The factual historical reality and truth however is that the fence during particular stages of our country's colonial political history clearly and deliberately represented a culmination of the various boundaries that the experiences of apartheid colonialism and wars have been imposed on the Namibian society, the actual construction of the fence during the 1960s, when official apartheid and Bantustans or Homeland Policies were introduced into this country was but a culmination of a series of artificial barriers that were put in place between Central and Northern Namibia the Police Zone and those other areas.

Therefore, anybody who confines or narrowly restricts the historical evolution and the existence of the Veterinary Condone Fence only to the

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26 years of our independence since the 21st of March 1990 a day on which Namibia attains the political freedom and genuine independence after 106 years of colonial apartheid rule, is historically uninformed, politically naïve, an opportunistic whether and I want Honourable Muharukwa to listen very carefully, whether the continued existence of the Veterinary Condone Fence is unconstitutional or not.

The lawyers in our country including the lawyers in this House will have to advise us and we look forward to the advice as the Government of the day and we can undertake that we shall take the correspondence and applicable appropriate actions accordingly and promptly if and when such cadence and sound legal advice and proper Court rulings have been provided exactly we will look into that.

The Cabinet of the Republic of Namibia has already approved in principle that a bugged zone of fence, look at me do not look in your desk there now tomorrow you will talk propaganda. Check the Cabinet of the Republic of Namibia has already approved in principle but a buffer zone offence may have to be constructed one day between the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Namibia.

A Cabinet Committee under the above and overall political leadership and coordination of our country's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation has also been put in place as per the relevant Cabinet decision with the objective, I do not know why the DTA leaders are so excited, is it because you have a male Secretary General or what (laughter). Why did you remove the lady? Why are they excited, you removed the able Secretary General?

Okay, Comrade Speaker. As I said this Cabinet Committee has been put in place to facilitate and to take forward the process of consultation and genuine discussions as between the two Republics names the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Namibia. I must state here that it is neither advisable nor desirable at least for us who are in leadership positions in Government.

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It is neither advisable nor desirable to put deadlines to consultations particularly bilateral and multilateral consultations between sovereign States.

Let us come out to the issue of the livestock markets and the steps that we have taken. For years now, Comrade Speaker, both prior and forth or after 21st of March 1990 livestock marketing through officially designated marketing channels, were done by the Meat Corporation of Namibia in the northern communal areas of our country. Again here, some people do not understand the broader definition of northern communal areas. Northern communal areas mean Zambezi Region, Honourable Muharukwa. It means Kavango East Region, it means Kavango West Region, it means Ohangwena Region, it means Oshikoto Region with the small part of that region that is south of Otjivelo. It means the whole of Oshana Region, it means the whole of Omusati Region, it means Kunene Region with the exception of this part south and it also means the Tsumkwe Constituency without the Gam that is the northern communal areas, large areas, many people and many livestock.

The livestock marketing activities were done by Meat Corporation through the Katima Mulilo and Oshakati State Owned Abattoirs but it is a fact that after the outbreak of the foot and mouth and towards the end of 2015 MeatCo publicly announced that they will not renew the agreement to operate those abattoirs and there is no quarrel about that.

The reasons that MeatCo gave publicly were based on financial consideration but they also make it very clear that they will continue to do business in the northern communal areas through mobile slaughter abattoirs. We have taken some steps to ensure that eventually these two abattoirs are operational. Expression of interests for the Katima Mulilo and Oshakati Abattoirs were put in public newspapers in March of this year. Good and very positive responses were received, applications in respect to that particular expression of interest by the deadline.

The Committee of Technical Experts in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry who is in charge of handling the adjudication process has

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been hard at work to sort out and scrutinize their applications. Successful bidders to manage and operate the Oshakati and Katima Mulilo Abattoir will be announced very soon and those abattoirs will become operational again.

The Government through the Ministry after discussion with MeatCo also decided to avail some Government quarantine camps notably the Omutambo Mawe on a temporary basis to MeatCo and this enable MeatCo to buy cattle from the northern communal areas during the prevailing 2016 drought and keep such cattle in quarantine camps before they will be taken for slaughter.

MeatCo has also publicly indicated that they will start doing business in the northern communal areas of Namibia using the mobile slaughter unit or abattoirs reportedly during the course of this month July. Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry has in the meantime acquired land at Bukalo Village for the construction of a modern meat processing factory. The construction of the abattoir at Rundu is to be complete in the early part of 2017. The construction work is progressing very well and all these are efforts that were put in place to ensure that the markets are once again reactivated for the livestock producers.

The Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry working closely with the Directorate of Veterinary Services officials has also been urged and I am using this proud form to urge them again to make sure that the small government abattoirs at the Outapi, Eenhana and Opuwo are properly advertised, publicised and eventually put to good use so that they can also serve the livestock producers.

In conclusion, Comrade Speaker, the Government through the Ministry wish to reiterate the clear assurances that we shall continue extra hard to device ways and means to eventually eradicate trans boundary animal diseases from the northern communal areas of Namibia for the sole purposes and ultimate objectives of improving market access for livestock and livestock products from the northern communal areas.

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HON MUHARUKUA**

Admittedly, the journey is still long and obvious the task of eradicating the trans boundary animal diseases is complex and expensive but eventually Namibians and Namibia through their democratically elected Government will emerge victoriously.

This is an economic war that we must all eventually fight and win hence the Ministerial Statement. I thank you Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Yes, Honourable Muharukua.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ON MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON MUHARUKUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

First and foremost, let me ask for the indulgence of the Speaker, because the Honourable Member's Ministerial Statement emerged largely on the questions that I have asked so perhaps let me expand a little bit on the rights that I have as I stand now perhaps to speak a little bit broad and also emanating from what the Honourable Member said. (Indistinct).

Honourable Minister, quite correct the Veterinary Condone Fence in my view was a political issue. Today it should not and when one raises it is not because one wants to claim political points, no, we all know too well that the Government of the day ex credit even for those things that are not or for the ideas that are not there, yes.

Wait, the point of the Veterinary Condone Fence emanates from the fact that the communities of Omusati, the communities of Kavango, the communities of Kunene people are suffering. Those farmers cannot effectively benefit from the drought relief measures that are currently in

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place because of the Veterinary Condone Fence. If one is to decide that you are from Oshana and you are going to marry in Okatjeru. You cannot take your cow from Oshana to Okatjeru to get married, you have to purchase a cow in Okatjeru and if you sell your cow in Omusati and have to buy in Okatjeru the prices are not the same so immediately the life implications or social implications of the people that are living north of the Veterinary Condone Fence are not the same. We cannot take part in the social events and economic events of this independence Namibia on equal footing. How does (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: Can I come in now, because maybe I am not getting it? Maybe I am not, I thought the purpose of the Ministerial Statement was to put forward what the Government is proposing to do in due course.

The issue you are raising here, although all of us have sympathy and understanding and appreciation, those are the issues perhaps that can be addressed once this exercise actually has taken place. Is it not the case?

HON MUHARUKUA: Honourable Speaker, that is why in the first place I requested that perhaps I may explain but the Speaker never said no that is why I assumed I could. But perhaps I will come back to the issue. If the Speaker had said no do not then I probably would not have done that.

HON SPEAKER: No, but to be honest we are governed by rules. I think if you pick up a point that the Minister is saying in the Statement you are now expanding and you are touching on a very important issue. We all have sympathy with that but I do not think it will be fair to raise that.

It could be a debate on its own but not necessarily attached to what the

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HON MUHARUKUA**

Minister is sharing with the House. Yes, continue please.

HON MUHARUKUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me come back to what the Minister has indicated.

I think it does not assist to jettison around the issue of creating a buffer zone and the talks that the Minister has referred to. What am I saying? The Honourable Minister has just said it may be necessary to create a buffer zone.

Before the Government and the Minister is on record for having said the buffer zone will be erected and talks are happening. Further, the Minister has perhaps clearly and quite correctly said that we cannot put deadlines on bilateral talks, quite correct but that is not, that was not the question. The question clearly was, how far are the talks? How soon can we expect some sort of results, anticipate some sort of results that (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: But you see already, please with due respect you are already putting a deadline. You are basically suggesting you want to know when and the Ministry is rightly saying that when you are involved in negotiation between State with different countries we are negotiating and therefore you cannot actually advance a time frame in deadline, is it not? He actually answered that. I am sure you agree with that.

HON MUHARUKUA: Honourable Speaker, I do not agree. There is a difference between me saying when, when we erect this or when will we give you the results there is a big difference between that and when you say when do you estimate.

I am asking for an estimate time, an estimate time based on what? Based

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on how far the talks are (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, no we are done. We are done.

HON MUHARUKUA: No, Honourable (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honestly, we are done.

HON MUHARUKUA: Honourable Speaker, I think (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: No, with due respect, please, please. Common sense will dictate the Minister cannot really give you that commitment and it is beyond him. He is not in a position to do that and you know it. No, honestly I might have missed something serious I will not permit further dialogue. It is a Ministerial Statement, I really wanted to give you an opportunity and I thought you will basically touch on something related to this but you are talking about timeframe, deadlines and that precisely is what we have been told. No, I am done. (Noise). We are moving on. This is the difficulty because when the moment you came into this kind of, okay.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:
With all due respect we have to stick to the rules. Rule 89, no debate may arise (*intervention*)

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HON MAAMBERUA: Point of Order.

HON SPEAKER: No please I will give you an opportunity but basically (intervention).

HON MAAMBERUA: I want to you to rule on a point.

HON SPEAKER: Actually I have ruled. With that in mind I have ruled. I will not defer (intervention).

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:
In future it should not be allowed that somebody comes and opens up a debate and then the person who has responded or who has made a statement is not allowed to correct the inaccuracies that have been. We have to stick to the rules that will answer the laws, yes.

HON SPEAKER: That is what I had in mind. We will leave it at that. Please, let us move on because we all know why we cannot do what the Honourable Member tried to do and I am not going to permit it.

The first Notice of a Motion is the one of the Honourable Minister of Industrialization, Trade & SME Development. Does the Honourable Minister move that the Bill be now introduced? Deputy Minister.

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**BUSINESS AND INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY AUTHORITY BILL
HON VAN DER WALT**

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE &
SME DEVELOPMENT:** Yes, Honourable Speaker.

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

The Secretary will now read the Bill a first time.

—————
**BUSINESS AND INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY AUTHORITY BILL [B.8 – 2016]**

—————
SECRETARY: *Business and Intellectual Property Authority Bill [B.8 – 2016].*

—————
HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Deputy Minister Move that the Bill be now read a Second time?

—————
**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE &
SME DEVELOPMENT:** I do.

—————
HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objection? Agreed to. The Honourable Deputy Minister has the floor.

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**BUSINESS AND INTELLECTUAL
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HON VAN DER WALT / HON DR ANKAMA**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE & SME DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of the august House.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

I am conscious of tea time and, because of this important statement, I missed the opportunity to consult you. In view of the fact that because there is so much on our agenda, may I kindly advise those who would like to sneak out for a cup of tea to do so and come back while the rest of us will continue? Is that acceptable? You are very kind in the spirit of Harambe.

I now call on the Honourable Dr Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker.

Comrade Speaker, I honestly just stood up to appreciate and to support the Bill on the table that was present by the Deputy Minister of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development.

The Bill at hand is a very delicate one. It is a delicate one in the sense that you see intellectual property, in essence intellectual property is a creation of the intellect for which the monopoly is granted or is given to the owner the one who has created the intellect so it is a protection granted to the creator or to the designer right? This is I do not know. I would say that we would have waited for this for quite a long time right now I would say in that you know when you submit your idea be it now whether it is a written document, or whether it is now a design of any kind when you submit this whether to the Ministry of Industrialization or whether you

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have done this academically the other guy would just come and copy and paste and pretend to own the idea which he or she is not the design.

What happens is that this challenge has been ongoing for quite some time because there are no regulations. Now that this has been regulated, it will create chances for protection of rights because if John or Peter or Iyambo had created X Property that should be regarded as his idea or his original property and not someone else, not like the way we do copy and paste right now.

You submit and I was here when somebody was talking about a submission of a business plan and probably it went missing apparently it was taken by someone else and duplicated for their own use. This is theft so protection of rights and regulate registration. As you put in your business proposal, you want to receive on this point an acknowledgement that yes this is an acknowledgement for receipt but you John or Peter have submitted a, b, c to us.

One thing that people have never known about is how to register for example your logo, businesses you can see, go around the city you will find businesses of different people having the same logo. This is unheard of. Now you do not know whether the second person has copied from the first one. Now we talk about copyright, well that is the thing because there is no legislation or regulation to this. Of course, it has been there, but perhaps people have not been aware of these issues so I know of some countries that were at loggerheads you know fighting against one another because of the pattern. A tree is originally Indian, it is a medicinal tree called Neem and I know some seven to nine years back there was one country that was claiming the patent and then it was discovered how can you own a patent of something which does not belong to your country.

I understand there were fighting about the patent of the Huda, for example.

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HON SPEAKER: Point of Order?

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: My Chief, I am sorry for interrupting my Chief. I am the one who said something mean and all those who are under me are all suffering you see.

So Chief, claiming of patents and copying and pasting, one, we had so many stories and makings, which one has copied to the other one?

Secondly, we also, you know Rooibos tea? Rooibos is also patent. Rooi is an African word that is patented by the big powers you cannot get the Rooibos even it is in Namibia. I have seen something in Germany where I think they call it Ovambo tea which is Rooibos also. It is true, because they found it here Rooibos is also patented.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: My humble subject is you see the General is very, you know he owns the whole platoon and the whole Army is his so it is my humble subject. Comrade General you are quite right.

You see, if you go around right now and just make some kind of like a back sport go around, check around, talk to people you will realise that one business name is owned by maybe three up to five same business really. You go around checking about the logos that appears on their letterheads if they have or maybe just on their walls you will realise that it may be owned by modern terms.

Now, if you do this with companies that organise multinational companies you will realise that you have trampled on an elephant's hoof you will have to pay through your nose because you are doing something in fact you are stealing someone's identity it is tough.

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When it comes to what we talk about like submission of your application, submissions of your logos, submission of your written document or design it should be regulated. It must be regulated and registered under your name or under probably who has submitted it.

We talk about copyright, we talk about patenting and industrial designs because when you design for a particular industry you want it to follow a certain method or typical practise so that when you do the mixing of whether your chemicals or whatever you are mixing it should follow a certain patent so that is what we talk about and that it is talking about. And then it talks about geographical indicators yes, then it comes to things like trade.

When it comes to trade you should have a specific way of trading not just at random without knowing why so you talk about trade routes or trade methodology that used.

Also currently we have got industries that are upcoming. When you design a brand say in food industry you create a brand, you have got what is the current now here in, we have got the one that comes up this, not particular, the one that makes soup and other things? It is one of those companies that are coming up so it must be patented so that no one else, how clever you may want to be can steal someone's idea, so I would like to say that it is well received and I believed many of us will be able to support this idea.

The Bill should be speeded up for implementation and I would like to say Comrade I support your Bill unresolved.

HON MEMBER: Our Bill?

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**BUSINESS AND INTELLECTUAL
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HON DR MUSHELENGA**

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE
RESOURCES**: Yes our Bill unreservedly. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga please.

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND COOPERATION**: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

I also rise to support the Bill and say something about the importance of Intellectual Property Protection.

Honourable Speaker, when you protect the Intellectual Property Rights it fosters and encourage innovation and further research. Are they forcing in a way the proposed Intellectual Property Authority should work hand in hand with the National Council for Science and Research so that as we are having new innovations we are going to pattern those innovations as a small country as we are in order for those who generate ideas to benefit from their innovations.

When you look at a number of traditional medicine even food that we produce they are being copied by other people who read the benefits of innovators. Here General Namoloh mentioned of the Rooibos tea. There is what you call in Oshiwambo tea proper where you take this flow sorghum and you try to fry it not with oil but just water and then it becomes dry, it becomes a very good and delicious tea. One of my aunt taught me this when I was about eight years or so such type of traditional delicacies they are not patent.

Next time maybe when you go to the United States or Germany you may find that they could be producing similar types of food and those that came up with initiative ideas to having that food are not protected. Thus

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this Bill is long overdue in order not only to protect the innovations of our people but also to encourage them more.

Then you go to medicine, our cattle herders have been very good veterinarians. Those that spend their childhood at the cattle post they know which plant to dig the roots or the fruits in order for the leaves in order to treat which disease very efficiently and these things are not patented, we run to the veterinarians and continue to support the use of chemical medicines benefitting other people.

So these type of traditional medicine too that the cattle herders used to treat our people also need to be patent so that they again reap the fruits. We have a type of varieties, cooking oil, omarula?

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Ojange, oenanga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION: Very unique to us to our country. This one opati not only the oil but even the residue very nutritious and the traditional beer are very good recipes.

Now, the Mopani shrimps now you find them in the shops, very much peculiar to our environment, to our history and you buy them expensive. The omatumbula very much again peculiar to our environment, if you prayed these, these can be very extensive delicacies so that is why I am saying this Bill has just come at the right time so that we do not only speak of protecting the big industries but from traditional innovations small scale type of industries where you have a variety of innovation, of food, medicine, etcetera so that our people can benefit.

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Artists too playing the music the type of the instruments that we use, okamburumbuzo very much unique to us, you will not find it elsewhere so all these things need to be patent. From the music industry point of view these needs to be patent and protected in terms of Intellectual Property Rights.

With these few words, Honourable Speaker, I support the Bill. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. The Honourable Dienda, please.

HON DIENDA: I will give to my boss instead.

HON SPEAKER: Okay thank you. I think pull it out, okay and then yes.

HON VENAANI: Okay. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. This is quite a very important debate. Important that there is a need to protect the Intellectual Property but I want to start with, the mover is not even in the House.

HON SPEAKER: Point of Order, I was not sure because the Honourable Venaani did not say (interruptions. Okay.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INNOVATION: I see, you should fix them for us. I just wanted to call to order, because the Deputy Minister who presented this Bill has been in and out of the Chamber, and he is the only one because the Minister is not around and he is expected to react to the interventions of the people and that is why I just wanted to call the House to order so that he sits in and listens to what it is what we are saying on the Bill. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. I just want to reassure the Honourable Member that the staff from the Ministry are with us and so I just want to reassure all of you that they are observing the debate and definitely they will alert the Honourable Deputy Minister when the times comes. Honourable Venaani, you have the floor.

HON VENAANI: Honourable Speaker, I rise to support or to show support to this Bill but, as we are during the start of the second reading, I want to raise some few issues that we must also guard against, because there is a big international debate about patenting Intellectual Property Rights.

Why? Well, because it is good and well to legislate on certain products but it is very difficult to determine the patenting of certain products. For example, let me start from African traditions, from here Namibia up to Burundi, from here to Kwazulu Natal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania everywhere all black ethnic groups would use the calabash.

Some would use it for Omaere and often cousins would use it for beer, Oshikundu or whatever they use it for. It is the same product now patenting it, yes it is a national product.

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Listen I will come to *ehoro* and *ehoro* in English is what? (Oshiwambo), what is *ehoro* in English?

HON MEMBER: Ehoro is just traditional job.

HON VENAANI: Yes, traditional job, Now if my uncle Peter Katjavivi in Ovitoto made one and my other cousin Hochmi Namoloh on the other side makes one how do you patent this product? Who can claim originality? No, because in this Bill it looks as the question of patenting it to protect a particular business.

Now Honourable Ithana's business comes first and says that I want to patent the making of this jar. The next morning another person comes and say I also make these so that patenting becomes very difficult.

Let me just come closer to the world debate in terms of technology, it has become interestingly very difficult to patent technology because look at nuclear power, the technology to create energy or nuclear raw material the infusions and everything was first started with the French, the technology started with the French, the Americans perfected it now the Chinese have it, the Pakistanis have it now who do you give the right? Who is the originator of the idea of nuclear warfare for example?

Coming back to computer programmes, it is not only the first companies that make certain products that want them to be attended to but technology is also very universal. If you have three Engineers that have gone to the same school, one is sitting in India, one is sitting in Namibia and one is sitting in the United States and they all come up with a similar product that patenting becomes very difficult.

As much as we support the importance and to give credence Intellectual

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Property Right we must also be very weary of the conflicting (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Charles Namoloh on a point of order?

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: On the point of information to my young brother there.

I think patenting is on a particular name or motive. If the Chinese make Mercedes Benz and you start to make a Mercedes Benz here, they will sue you using the same logo they will sue you, but computers we have so many of them you cannot patent. There are new computers that are coming up so many of them but if you want to copy of a particular name and logo they will sue you. Of course, talking about the calabashes and so forth, the calabash you have it in your vernacular name. I have it in my vernacular name so you cannot patent my name. The difference is only the name not the product. It is the name not the product, thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON VENAANI: Look, if we decide to export *ehoro*, *ehoro* in Oshiwambo in Otjiherero it is *ehoro*, so what is the difference with the name? When you start talking about the rules of origin between the trading patterns between nations the rules of origin, we know this is a Namibian product, but patenting or Intellectual Right – how do you distinguish between those two but coming from the same country two

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different providers? There is and I am telling you that there is an international conferences held to discuss conflicting laws of patenting, conflicting laws of intellectual property rights, because there are some engineers that would claim that a particular thesis was arrived by me on the 2nd of the month, the other one said I came also with the same conclusion on the 3rd of the month, and they will be fighting on who has the right because they are making money out of – because Intellectual Property Right is monopoly that is what it translates to into business you monopolise a certain product to be yours and therefore for you to be able to approve the benefits of the work of your products.

Coming also to us artefacts if you read about arts in Europe, Mongolia these countries you have, what do you call these people that are making these? I remember now (indistinct). I forgot, I will come back to that, but there will be fighting about a particular bridge that these are two artisans that have painted a particular bridge but each and everyone wants his product to be patented that no other person should design the golden gate bridge, in particular, whether with hooving or whatever and that is that thing you want to be attended but there is another person in Ongwediva or Ndjambalala who has done the same thing so I am guarding against what I am urging the House to guard against is patenting is I am a Namibian citizen I know this country like my yard (intervention).

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Do you know Taj Mahal?

HON VENAANI: Taj Mahal.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Do you know

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(indistinct).

HON VENAANI: Anywhere else, of course, so what I am saying is that it is a good law and sometimes our people and perhaps it is good that the Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade & SME Development has come with this important Bill. There is a gentleman in a place called Ombombuovakuru.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: From the North?

HON VENAANI: Ombombuovakuru comes from the North, and he has been working there for many years and he has these walking sticks. I am sure had this person been in Europe or elsewhere in Japan or any other country where there is a bigger population he would have been a millionaire, because if you look at the walking stick he said all of us nearly every person that comes from that area even people that are coming from northern areas are having those walking sticks and it is a particular way that he makes them.

They are very unique, he would know that this stick comes from this gentleman but he does not have any intellectual property on his, he does not have any right over these products that he is making but the whole country is really using his products, so I think to those people it would really become a helpful mechanism for them to be able to protect their products and to patent but he would not stop another person from making the same thing in another part of the country.

With those due remarks I just wanted to put the spanners in the wheel with those conflicting patenting problems that we have.

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I support the Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. The Honourable Nekundi.

HON NEKUNDI: Thank you very much Comrade Speaker.

I take the floor in essence to support this very important Bill. On my side, I believe a Bill of this nature is long overdue in the Namibian context where we have so many thousands of young persons graduating from various institutions, very much creative and innovative in various trade subjects and at most, it has always been difficult to be innovative. At the end of the day, what we have innovated somebody else outside their normally from the international communities get hold of that idea and it becomes somebody's property.

I think such a Bill is a step in the right direction and it helps our people especially the young people who have hunger to be organised as the pioneers of a particular product commodity or a service, it is very important that we have such a Bill.

A Bill of this nature, Comrade Speaker, is the one which at most bring about comparative advantages to the commercial entities, the ones today we talk about Benz, BMWs, Apple and all others just by mentioning those brand names it already gives you a comparative advantage; it already enables you to penetrate a particular market and our young persons have been all along looking forward when are we going to have such a Bill and the Comrades that side the Ministry have done a good job in doing that. It is something that we must appreciate and try by all means to expedite these Bills in order to ensure that it becomes a law.

I only urge the Comrades who would then be entrusted to ensure that this

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Bill becomes a law, to ensure that there is no unnecessary bureaucratic systems that will deter our young persons and everybody out there to wanting to go and register his patent. It is my hope that the process will be smooth and easy for each and every one.

On the same note, I hope that there should be a desk to assist the persons who approach the office and wanting the innovative ideas to be patent it is very important. Knowing that this particular commodity is new in the Namibian context to many of Namibians they will be requiring a lot of assistance to take them through the process and I believe a desk at these institutions will be of paramount from the day of its inception.

The other aspect that I will seek attention of the Comrades is to ensure that at least the fees should not be so exorbitant, the person, an elderly person who is the poorest of everybody in Namibia and have an innovative idea and feels that it requires to be patent this person must be assisted. They must be able to have foresight and if these institutions should pioneer the patenting aspects in our country. They should actually take this person through from day one until this idea or this innovative concept is being pertinent. It is the only way we will be able to accommodate everybody in this country especially young persons.

With that, Comrade Speaker, I really support the Bill and I want to see it being adopted as soon as possible. Thank you very much Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Dienda.

HON DIENDA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I would really love to read this document through so

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I will adjourn it with the indulgence of the House. No, you will not tell me what to do – until Thursday. Thank you Honourable.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Of course this does not prevent those Members who would like to contribute. The Honourable Bernard Esau.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:
Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

Honourable Members, I would like to let me also register my support to this very important piece of law especially the principle of the law I do support.

In terms of what the object of this specific Act wants to achieve, it states that it wants to facilitate economic growth and development, which is really great. I know that we need to see that our economy grows and if we do not have all the legislations in place or all the instruments in place we will not stimulate that growth that we want in order to address unemployment, in order to address poverty, etcetera.

Now I know that we have this issue, this plant called hudia. Hudia is there and we need really with this very authority we should look into those specific products that can be patented for the mere fact to at least give meaning to this very object and that is to stimulate economic growth. The same applies to devils claws. These specific products are really very important. We could have stimulated a new industry, an industry in cosmetics, same applies to Hudia, we could have done medicine, pharmaceuticals industries, we could have started with this.

Now this very act is coming at the very right time and I have also noted that with this authority at least the functions and powers of the authority

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will also be to reach out. I have picked up that in this very Bill and that really I want to applaud the Minister as well as his staff members who have come up with that.

Now I know that this is authority that needs also to be aligned in terms of participation with the African Regional Intellectual Property Organisation. The same applies to globally they should be in line with the World Intellectual Property Organisation what it needs so everything that is registered as an Intellectual Property or patented should be registered with this very institutions continental as well as globally.

In terms of the board of this authority, especially the constitution of the board it is very vital that at least when these members are appointed on the board there should be gender sensitivity on the board and I want at least to see that there are women as well, Honourable Sioka, I support you on this one very much. Also we want to see that our young people the youth is also coming on board so as for them to understand what we are in fact doing.

Last, but not least, I know that mention was made about the Public Enterprise Governance Act and I think at least this Bill must at least also be aligned to the Public Enterprise Governance Act. It is the last, it is the conclusion and then last and then finally.

Finally, I want to register my support to this very Bill as introduced by the Deputy Minister of Industrialization, Trade & SME Development. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Honourable Becky Ndjoze-Ojo.

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HIGH EDUCATION, TRAINING
AND INNOVATION:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I rise in

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to support the Bill, and also urge the Deputy Minister for your presentation but I just want to refer one word to your motivation speech.

I know that these Bills sometimes when they come they come a long way and they would have started in Geneva so many years ago like you referred to in your speech. However in Namibia we are urged to develop our narrative and if we are going to have a law that is discussed by this Legislative House we need to change some of the words.

I know that you referred to the Third World Network in Geneva and said the discourse is changing and we talk about the developing world and I think why many people do not take us serious is because we always push ourselves as we are belonging to a different world from what everybody else is belonging to so they could wait for their own turn and maybe that is why sometimes our Hudia and devil claws are patent actually outside the country. Some of these products we are talking about are already owned by foreign countries and I just do not know at what level we will speak in retrospect or claiming what was ours and that has been taken from us.

The second point I wanted to make is that the Bill I am sure we are going to go into the Committee Stage when we are going to talk to the specific of the Bill but I also wanted to urge you to, I know we are establishing a property authority and I think one of the objects of that authority should be to protect intellectual property and I am just wondering whether we could not infuse the word protecting intellectual property in your Bill, the long title of your Bill on page 2.

After the functions of the authority has been earmarked consolidating certain offices and so on I think we should put to protect intellectual property and to amend certain laws in line with that protection. I know that the word protection is appearing on page 5 Article 3(a), but it is quite too late in the Bill and I want the object of the Act on D2(a), 2(d) to include also the word protect and promote the contact and use of business and intellectual property in Namibia.

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I just want to emphasise that protection is not necessarily to establish an authority but protection within this Bill should be major word to help us protect what is ours and I look forward to contributing to the specifics later. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Honourable Kavekatora.

HON KAVEKOTORA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

I stand to give my support to this very important Bill. What really drew my attention Honourable Speaker is the title of the Bill so as Business and Intellectual Property Authority Bill and the Intellectual Property to me is very specific and clear.

The business part is what is of interest to me because if you go to page 4 on the object of the Act Item No. B it says that, "And hence the efficient protection of the business and intellectual property in Namibia.

I have observed situations where business plans submitted to financial institutions sometimes tend to be hijacked. I must choose my words very carefully. Business plans sometimes tend to be hijacked from the original developer of that particular business plan ending up in the hands of somebody who did not even make an effort to come up with such a business plan and if what is contained here is basically an idea of trying to protect those people who come up with innovated ideas and come up with business plans I think that is really a commendable move.

The question really is how that will be put into operation because it is a very tricky situation. A business plan is not like intellectual property it is basically more the viability of the plan that may just be more attractive for somebody else to hijack it but if we succeed in protecting businesses

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through the protection of business plan then I must say that that will be a very commendable move and I think Namibia will be among those countries that really have done something beyond the normal expectations. I think that I had a business plan and it was taken away by the General, that is why the General is so up in arms but I think this is really something overdue, and I think if the Ministry can put more emphasis on the protection of business ideas and business plans so that the original person can benefit from originating a particular aspect that will really be a commendable move.

I support the Bill. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Next is Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I also rise to give my support to this Bill. Although I have not gone through the text, other than to glance through certain pages, I feel this is one of those Legislations one would upfront support because the aim is really to advance to take Namibia to another level.

Honourable Speaker, those who spoke before me highlighted areas of greater interest for us to have such items attended if we get organised and focussed. I do not know whether in our objectives to achieve this we are going to bring in institutions of research and get people who know really.

Knowledge is not restricted to those with degrees only knowledge is there in our communities. In the hindrance of this country we find men and women who are knowledgeable about the medicines we plant with the

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medicinal properties, the leaves what note as they were mentioned here the list is long but I do not know whether we are thinking linking up this institution that we are going to create here with those in the rural areas to bring out the knowledge that lies in there.

Honourable Speaker, if we are not moving fast enough, as one of the Speakers on the other side there said the Bill is long overdue, probably by the time we will want to patent anything of Namibian origin it is already patented anywhere else. If we are not moving fast you know one interesting process that I even wanted our current Universities to get interested in and perfect and make it really Namibian it is the way some communities in Namibia derive oil from nuts.

If you observe that process you get wondering it is nuts, is mortar, is stick, is water and the energy that is created there and you see how the oil is separated from the rest and why our scientists are not interested in such a process and just perfect it so that it is really ours and ours only. If our traditional people have come to that notion what about us who went to school, who got degrees in science and other cases, I think we can. But you know nowadays we got so excited about certain word and everybody who talks you hear about 'our narrative' as if that word was just discovered yesterday. Yes our narrative of our own history we write our own things, we patent them, why are we not doing that? We want to emulate what has already been discovered by other people yet we have our own here.

Comrade Speaker, as I said, before I end my intervention I just want to find out really, what prevents us from claiming the right over our own products, our own resources that are patented by others? They cannot even grow such products in their own environment. They can only grow here but for whatever reason they found our people working with these products and hijacked them.

Is there no recourse in international laws for us to reclaim what belongs to us? That question, Honourable Deputy Minister, is of interest to me.

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With these few words I support the Bill. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Next is the Honourable Kashilongo.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER: Honourable Kashikola.

HON SPEAKER: I thought I got the name, can I repeat?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kashikola.

HON SPEAKER: Kashikola.

HON HAMBYUKA: Kashikola.

HON SPEAKER: Huh? Kashikola?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

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HON SPEAKER: But you see the misspelling is on the computer. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY:
Honourable Speaker, I rise to add my voice to those who have spoken before me.

I have skimmed through the Draft Bill and probably I have not finished reading it all but my impression is that the Bill seems to have devoted most of the chapters and sections on the creation of the authority BIPWA and very little on the how the protection is going to be done. I, therefore, while supporting I think it needs to be a bit clear on how do we, after we have created the institution, then go about protecting the Intellectual Properties and Rights and probably the issues of penalties if there is any for the violation of those registered rights.

So, I speak under correction, because I have not completed the whole Bill but it seems very little on the protection has been said. I rest my case, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I can assure you the Honourable Member that technicians will make the necessary correction, because this is not the first time I get into mispronouncing your name wrong, my sincere apology. We will do something about it.

A request has been made by the Honourable Dienda, requesting that we defer further discussions until tomorrow hopefully? Until Thursday. Okay, that being the case, we move on to the next item on our agenda.

The second notice of a Motion is the one of the Honourable Minister of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development. Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now introduced? Who seconds? Any

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HON VAN DER WALT**

objection? Agreed to. Will the Honourable Deputy Minister please table the Bill?

The Secretary will now read the Bill the second time.

LIQUOR AMENDMENT BILL [B.7 – 2016]

SECRETARY: *Liquor Amendment Bill [B.7 – 2016].*

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Deputy Minister Move that the Bill be now read a second time?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE & SME DEVELOPMENT: Yes, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Yes. Who seconds? Any objection? Agreed to.

The Honourable Deputy Minister has the floor.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE & SME DEVELOPMENT: I thank you once again Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of this august House it is again my distinct honour to introduce before the august House Liquor Act

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HON SIOKA**

Amendment Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Yes, the Honourable Sioka.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you Comrade Speaker for the opportunity. I rise also to support the Liquor Act Controlled something like that. How do you call it because we do not have it here?

HON MEMBER: Liquor Act Amendment Bill.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Yes it is Amendment Bill.

Comrade Speaker, really it is a concern which my colleague has brought to this House. My issue here maybe is just to advise that maybe us as Government should really fine the Breweries heavily if we want to control alcohol in our country. We have to fine them heavily, to pay tax heavily so that they will also make their alcohol very expensive to the consumers so that it should be affordable to them. It will be very hard unless those ones who know how to control themselves that they can buy and drink at home are the ones who will be able to buy alcohol. Let us charge the breweries.

Also, let us consider the *tombo* those local beers which have been sold in the rural areas. The Traditional Authorities should also fine each and every seller of *tombo*. Every year or every month they have to be paying something to the Traditional Authorities, also they will make sure that

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they will control (intervention). Pardon?

HON MEMBER: Kashikundu also.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Yes, kashikundu also, anything which has got alcohol should be taxed heavily, so that the Traditional Authorities also if they are getting that money, heavy taxes which they are charging over the breweries of *tombo*. They will also sell it expensively that will make sure that if at one dollar they should sell it at five dollars or ten dollars per bottle, so that it will be very expensive for the consumer also to buy, especially for those who are not working.

Comrade Speaker, my main aim here last week I was in //Karas, this is the language I am every talking about. Our children are really taken up by alcohol especially the youth. We have got youth in this Parliament, they should take it seriously. I was addressing, listen I am very serious. I was addressing the SWAPO Youth League in Tobias Hainyeko last of last week on Saturday, there were questions which were raised. They said, one question which is very important, they said Comrade Minister we are faced with the situation of alcohol as youth. Most of the consumers (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: On a point of order?

HON MUHARUKWA: (Indistinct).

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HON MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Yes.

HON MUHARUKWA: If I would want to extend an invitation on behalf of the DTA Youth League to my mother as a Minister would you be amenable to address them as a Minister? Subject to the answer, I mean it veteran.

HN MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you. I am the Minister of Gender neh, I am for everybody, either DTA or SWAPO, please you can invite me I address your youths definitely I will make it a point. They are my children. First comes my children then we go to Political Parties.

So, Comrade Speaker, I was addressing these youths the question that they wrote was, Comrade Minister should a youth under the age of 18 to 35 are the most people who are the victims of gender based violence and they consume too much alcohol, what are we going to do? I told them blankly I said, the issue here you children the youth from 18 to 35 you cannot handle alcohol, the effects of alcohol in your brains. Once you get angry you want to destroy everything, that is the anger of our youths nowadays that is why there is too much, they are the victims and they are the perpetrators of gender based violence.

They cannot handle this alcohol Comrade Speaker and this alcohol is not ordinary alcohol. Apparently, I have observed there is something which they are putting in. They put it marijuana, when they are selling it to you you will feel that it will take you quickly and you see the world how far it is. You want to climb the sky you know so it is what we are observing.

Number 2 is drugs, our youths cannot handle drugs it is the same like alcohol. Number 3, is love affairs once they are angry these youths they

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cannot handle love affairs. I think for those who have gone through marriage they will tell you how difficult marriage is. Very difficult it is not an easy thing. They got married there at an early stage. I got married when I was 27, so I know how to control myself. I know how to control my husband if he goes somehow, you get me. Even him when we were 30 already with me then we know how to control each other.

Therefore the youths of nowadays cannot handle these three things, it is what I have observed unless we fine the breweries and the *tombos* to be expensive for them and most of them are school droppers those who are involved in alcohol again, because of frustration what can I do unless when I indulge myself in alcohol.

Maybe also the Government should do much to get employment for these youngsters. Let us get them. I think the Ministry of Higher Education, I heard they are coming up with many vocational schools, this will consume these youths, otherwise for gender based violence it is escalating and there is a Motion also on suicide. That Motion I would like to support it even though I am leaving very soon, I am going somewhere so I would like that Motion to go really to the rural areas. Do not be addressing the towns, you go to Rundu, you go to Katima, you go to Oshakati you do not go to the rural areas. Go to the rural areas it is where people are suffering nicely (laughter). They are suffering nicely there, go to the rural areas stop going to towns. To tell the truth if you want to see problems go to the rural areas you will see them.

Comrade Speaker, there are many things I wanted to speak especially the one I hear about gender based violence and there is a strategy which we have taken now that maybe every week or every month the Ministry of Gender will be talking in local languages to address the issue of gender based violence which is caused mainly by alcohol. We control this even though we will talk with, reduce time, reduce what definitely if we are not going to institute heavy taxes on breweries and *tombos* there is nothing we are going to control so that it will be very expensive for them to buy.

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HON SPEAKER: On a point of order or are you done?

**HON MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD
WELFARE:** No.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, please talk to her.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: May I ask my young sister a question?

**HON MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD
WELFARE:** Yes, please.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Honourable Minister of Gender, Equality and Child Welfare, do you know that the breweries and alcohol makers contribute to the revenue of our State – do you know that?

**HON MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD
WELFARE:** Yes, then we will get more than what we are getting right now. Then we get more than what we are getting now while here we are protecting our people. It is good that we charge them heavily, we tax them heavily.

Really you know Libya is one of the countries which I have seen during

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those days of our uncle May his Soul Rest in Peace Kaddafi, there was no alcohol in that country. You sneak in alcohol you will be arrested. Now since the uncle has left now alcohol is all over maybe I do not know but definitely Comrade Speaker, gender based is squarely really as you have mentioned blamed on alcohol and what type of generation are we going to head in future if our youth. I know that when I talk about gender based violence some people Members of Parliament you are really very happy because you do not want to pay attention to these senior citizens.

Comrade Speaker, with these few remarks I really support the Amendment Bill from the Ministry of Industrialization, Trade & SME Development. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Next on my long list is the Honourable Kashikola.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you Honourable Speaker, I rise to support the Liquor Amendment Bill.

This is very important. It is a very important Bill indeed in that it seeks to prohibit the issuance of licences to certain places within the proximity of schools and other places of importance, as well as the residential areas because the existence of shebeens, of course licensed shebeens, at the moment close to schools contribute to the poor performance of our learners at those schools. It is also not only at the schools, but also in the residential areas, children do not sleep because the shebeens are making noises. There are always these juke boxes and, whatever, I do not know their names, those things that make noises in the bars and shebeens.

So I really support that there has to be a law to prevent and to ban those shebeens nearby the residential areas and schools. My only worry in this Bill is in Section 1, where it says it requires for a licence to be issued per

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consent being given by owners of residential premises within a given area.

Comrade Speaker, if we leave this provision to be like the way it is and you go to some of the towns where every second house is a shebeen in the Evelyn Street we expect that all those residential people within those residents will give consent for the licenses to be issued and that is not solving our problem because our intention is actually to remove shebeens from the residential areas and therefore I would propose strongly that we change this one to prohibit the operation of shebeens in residential areas consent or no consent that will solve our problem.

HON SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Which one?

HON SPEAKER: Let me take you one by one. Let me take you one by one, the Honourable Venaani.

HON VENAANI: Yes, Honourable Kashikola, may I ask you a question? What is, in your view, what would be the economic impact of, (intervention). Listen there is an economic impact. What would be economic impact?

We are sitting with an unemployment rate of close to 30% in the country, you are closing people's shebeens that have licences because of proximities, you also have one I know. You also have one. At least I do not have one mine is on the farm. So do you not think that there is an

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impact on the economic front that many people are going to lose income if we do that?

HON SPEAKER: Okay, let me take that I am not sure whether the Honourable Dr Ankama what was your point of order?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

Comrade Speaker, my concern was I think Comrade Kashikola has made a very good point in as far as suggesting that maybe we should look at how we are going to regulate the proximity of the shebeens and the area within where such shebeens are situated.

The question is also here, we have had a situation you know in the olden days you will recall very well that when liquor was prohibited in this country people became very difficult to control. I would tell you of a situation where people brewed, I was sometimes in Walvis Bay area in 1977 but anywhere what happened there people made holes whether in the houses or whether outside their houses and then they bury those containers of brew underneath and you would not see them also because when they come they drink these deep, during the day you would walk over.

Those are the things that we have to look into because people will become very difficult and would go underground and mind you these people sometimes are their own brewers. They brew their own stuff. We must find a way how to curb this so that they are not allowed to brew whether individually or politically.

That is the problem we have. I do not know how we do that one.

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HON SPEAKER: Honourable Dr Ankama therefore your question is whether this Amendment Bill whether it is closing those loopholes?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Exactly, yes. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Can I ask the Honourable Member to continue, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you very much.

Through the question I will start with, by the way I was almost finished but I will start with your question on the economic impact. There might be economic impacts but I want us to think the current economic impact to ourselves collecting money from the shebeens and future economic impact as a result of the failures of the children that we have because they are subjected to noises that are coming from the shebeens that are close to schools, that are close to residential areas, I think future is most with the present, that is my take on that one.

Comrade Ankama, when you have you violates the law. Violate it if the law enforcement will not see you you will get away with it but if you are found then the law takes its course again that is my take there so if people go underground and they are discovered it is illegal let the law take its own course. Honourable Speaker, I rest my case. I am done with my intervention.

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HON ITHETE / HON NAMOLOH**

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Ithete, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE: No, I do not have a shebeen.

Honourable Speaker, I also rise to support the Liquor Amendment Bill and with my support I want to raise some important issues.

Somehow somewhere or indirect our current system somehow encourages people to build more shebeens and I am saying this because when you go deep in the rural areas when we distribute water points, electricity most of the places that we target is where a shebeen is, it is where we take electricity, it is where we take water, it is where we take meetings, it is where we make pill points for our elders and it encourages people that it seems to own a shebeen. It is important, but when you create a project a chicken project for example, a vegetable project, any projects for clothes no electricity will be brought there, no water will be brought there, nobody will come and hold a meeting there so let us look at these things and let us discourage some of these things.

That is the only point I wanted to make, Honourable Speaker. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Short and sweet. Honourable Charles Namoloh.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you Comrade Speaker.

My young brother there said some of the things I also wanted to say. Unfortunately the Minister of Energy is not here we could have told him.

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HON NAMOLOH**

Comrade Speaker, we have been speaking in this House very recently on road accidents it is on the floor now, the GDP and so forth and so on. I think what we need with this Bill also our Bills should talk to each other.

We are also going to introduce the arms and Ammunition Bill, the Drugs and Narcotics Bill and I think as this one is here they should talk to each other and they fill the loopholes which are left there if not built here it is dealt there. In the Bill here they also mentioned that prohibition of licenses near certain places such as schools, worshiping places, what now? I am a headman of a very important place Odibo. Odibo yes that is the place and I am prating a Motion, there is a church a very big Anglican Church, there is a hospital, there is a school and there are shebeens around the mission. What happens now when now this Bill is amended? We will withdraw their licenses and go somewhere or they continue to be there?

HON MEMBER: They withdraw.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Withdraw? Okay, that is good but also on the boards we have seen when the people being spoken about here that they should be people free from here and there and so forth.

One thing is there is a conflict of interest many of the people the boards own shebeens also. they own shebeens as well as the Taxis also we have the Taxi Association and the people who are there are those who own the taxis where is transparency here now I think we need to (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: Is that a point of order?

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HON NAMOLOH**

HON BEZUIDENHOUT: Thank you very much.

Honourable Charles Namoloh, the information was incorrect coming from this side about the withdrawal of people that have got already a licence. Provision No.2 says the provision of Sub Section 1 shall not apply to a valid licence that was granted before.

HON VENAANI: Read further, then you are wrong.

HON SPEAKER: Let us not worry, because when the Deputy Minister or the Minister is going to respond he will be able to help us clarify the situation when the time comes. For now, the Honourable Member please continue.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you Comrade Speaker, what I am emphasising is on these related Bills they should talk to each other so that what we are saying in this Bill is what we are saying. We should want these Bills to be widely discussed throughout the communities must take part and they must discuss them, because the problem is with the communities there. They understand it and we must bring it to them so that they have the input so that when we have it is the expression of the communities out there.

I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Honourable Jan Van Wyk.

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HON VAN WYK: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I rise to support the Bill, and I would like to thank the Honourable Minister and Deputy Minister for bringing this Bill to Parliament.

Alcohol is a problem in this country and the time to address the problem is right now. People are saying that shebeen owners in this country are the Local Authority Councillors, the Police Officers, Members of Parliament and I am very glad that the Local Authorities will now be part of the Committee.

My question just is when it comes to the representation of the Local Authorities I think the Act should be clear on that, should it be official from the Local Authority or should it be elected Councillors so I think that is something that we should look at.

A very important one that is missing in the Bill Honourable Speaker is the Special Liquor Licence. We are saying in this Bill that we shall not issue licences for shebeens near schools but a Special Liquor Licence allow me to sell liquor at a school after hours. A Special Liquor Licence allow me to open my shebeen on Sunday morning when the people or I am supposed to take my children to church instead I am going to the shebeen because the shebeen is having a Special Licence to take the money that I am supposed to give to my children is going to the shebeen so Special Liquor Licence should be addressing this Bill.

There are lots of cases whereby community members try to stop the issuing of Special Liquor Licences because of various reasons and to get the (intervention).

HON DIENDA: On a point of order Speaker?

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HON SPEAKER: On a point of order.

HON DIENDA: On a point of information, Honourable Jan Van Wyk, a Special Liquor Licence is even given to schools and to churches when you have the guts to sell alcohol to sell alcohol on those premises. Yes, a school can apply for a Special Liquor Licence when they have bazaars the same with the church they can apply so it is selective moralities that we are talking about so this word special needs to be clarified to us.

HON VAN WYK: Thank you. That is true if you go to a school for the week-end you will see the effects of that Special Liquor Licences, with that that is my request Honourable Deputy Minister that we address Special Liquor Licences in this Bill. I thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Deputy Speaker.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker, for giving me the floor.

I agree with the previous speaker who said that liquor/alcohol is the source of all evils in our country and I disagree with the notion of saying that that is a source of income selling alcohol.

2013, I visited the Republic of Mauritania. We had a chance to travel by road from the capital city of Mauritania towards the border of Senegal to see the agricultural project there. We travelled by bus. In Mauritania to those who have been there, it is s a desert just like when you are going to South. As a Namibian who is used to these cuca shops I did not even take

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along my bottle. We saw a lot of structures, I thought they are cuca shops, no they are mosques. We stopped there and people prayed. It was a long distance. I was so surprised. We came back hungry as we were but at the end of the day we received nice food without alcohol. There are people in the country who are living without alcohol.

Colleague, if we prohibit that our community will be able to find other ways of income to ensure that our people will be able to plan otherwise rather than to be involved in cuca shops and shebeens.

HON SPEAKER: Is that a point of order?

HON VENAANI: I rise on a point of information. My dear Deputy Speaker is having a very good point quite very interesting, but I also want to inform her that one of Namibia's biggest business is Namibia Breweries. It is a global player, the Russians, the Easter Europe, South Africa all over the world. In fact, they are supporting to even make these companies much bigger, because it employs more people.

The issue that needs to be addressed is whether making alcohol in a country is the reason why people are drunk or whether the consumption is another matter because there is a big difference to argue that because Namibia Breweries is a producer of beer therefore they are promoting social violence or social inequality in the country.

So, I think we must try to balance between the existence of liquor businesses and abuse of because it is not only the liquor that is abusing even guns are being abused by some so would you argue that it is gun manufacturers that are killing people or is it people that are abusing the property? I think I am not seeing that balance within a debate.

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HON SPEAKER: Okay, Deputy.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, okay my colleague, the leader of the Opposition Party, I should think he could have just stood up and made a point but however, I did not mention breweries but however we are here as lawmakers to protect the lives of our people.

Brewery is not God; it is not Jesus. The lives of our people are in our hands. What is wrong with you McHenry Venaani you can stand up and say something I am talking what I think so that people over there can hear? Having said that Honourable Speaker, we should not keep quiet no matter there are big people who are there who have got lots of money we have to protect the lives of our people that is why we are here.

Having said that, Honourable Speaker, the Section 2(a) the insertion there which says, that no person shall be granted a licence for the sale of liquor within a prescribed distance from the vicinity of etcetera unless, I want that to be cancelled altogether if you are going to be serious.

Furthermore, also Sub Section 2 which says that the Provision of Sub Section 1 shall not apply to a valid licence that shall be granted before the establishment of a school etcetera, I want also to argue with that this is so important to say that it could also be made retrospective but however, I am happy that it was also addressed by the last phrase which says that but those provisions shall be applicable when the licence is being renewed so I am happy with those provisions.

Lastly, I also want this Bill to include or determine the time and the closure of shebeens. When I went since 2010 up to last year, outreach the communities there are asking that please the shebeens must have time regulations. Maybe they will start at 10:00 and 17:00 they will close because when we do not have time limits to these people it is where a lot of people get drunk, go home and kill whichever they want to kill I do not want to say who.

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I want seriously to request as to whether it is not possible also to include the time limit if now maybe another law could also. Is it already there? Okay, thank you so much. I support the Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Attorney General please.

HON ATTORNEY-GENERAL: After the discrimination of the (indistinct). I am taking the floor, Honourable Speaker, to not only support the Bill but to also make a plea that we do not end here with the regulation of alcohol outlets.

I am choosing carefully, because I am supporting the regulation of alcohol selling and therefore alcohol outlets. I am not against alcohol because I have an understanding of certain nuance as I think which inform where we attribute. There is such a thing as a phenotype of a gene that exists in communities who have traditionally brewed alcohol and they have either let me give an example of grain based alcohol such as Omalovu they have distilled alcoholic products such as ombike, kashipembe etcetera.

I enjoy these products very much, particularly you see the problem is abuse. Even when you abuse water everything that you overdo is a problem but the phenotype that I am talking about is that alcohol has been used to destroy our cultural set up. People who never brewed alcohol in their lives and in their communities were introduced to certain alcohols and it eroded certain cultural cohesion and it was used further in the process of the colonisation of the continent not only here but elsewhere. This is reality.

You now have a situation where certain cultures have been wiped away have been viewed and drank from the colonisers' culture. We toast, we will have tea and then we put that kasipembe, their kasipembe not our kasipembe and we do not have the phenotype for it which means our

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bodies cannot handle it. Yes because if you take an Irishman and you give him a tot of triple distilled whisky he will react differently here I am talking about phenotype.

HON SPEAKER: On a point of order.

HON MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM: Honourable Speaker, I am very much impaired by the Attorney General I just want to ask a very good question. What size is that now?

HON ATTORNEY-GENERAL: It is called un topology and if you read a book called the Origins of Mankind you will start understanding how we have been colonised and how it has effectively worked on the continents. This is science. Modern science can show you how.

HON SPEAKER: Another point of order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE: On a point of order, I would like to ask my brother a simple question. Since he spoke of a single tot that can tip a person I think (interruptions). Tot, I am talking about a tot. How do we control the amount of alcohol that we take in the church, when the Pastor gives out (laughter).

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI / HON IIVULA-ITHANA

HON SPEAKER: On that one, our time is up and you will continue to lead us on that very interesting topic tomorrow. But, before we call it a day, I just want to commend you individually and collectively for a job well done but I have to confess to you. While I appreciate all these interesting interventions I think I need to remind you, we have got few days left before we adjourn and it is interesting that all of us can intervene on every item on the Order Paper. If we continue to do that it is a risky business, because then some of these issues will not be attended to and therefore they are going to lapse and I think today has been a very good example.

We did a great deal of debating etcetera but none of the items on the Order Paper were done away with. They are still with us and we are going to continue for the next day or two. So I just wanted to share that with you as a reminder. Yes, Honourable.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Honourable Speaker, I hear you very well and I am just also worried that the time we have at our disposal is soon running out and I am asking myself whether and I am going to ask what I am going to ask (laughter). Yes, English/Namlish, because of some issues that I know are not yet here but they are supposed to be here.

Is there a possibility for extension of the session, even just for a week, because really when there is such an opportunity to do the right thing why going on a recess while we are leaving important issues unattended? It is just a question, Honourable Speaker, and probably a recommendation in a way.

HON SPEAKER: No, I think the question is valid but a big but. We need to function on the basis, we need to be predictable. There must be communication that are following between ourselves and the Executive to

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be in the know in terms of how we will handle the timetable. For now we have been able to determine the timetable we have been able to work out when we are going to recess so therefore I am basically saying nothing is casting stone but there must be communication otherwise we need to stick to the timetable unless otherwise. The Deputy Speaker would like to come in.

HON SPEAKER: The Deputy Speaker would like to come in.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can agree maybe a week provided each one of us (interventions) and provided each one of us is there just to make interventions. We can with five minutes.

HON SPEAKER: I think the issue for us, there is no society that functions without rules, timelines, we need to be predictable. We need to predict when we start, when we adjourn and when we come back so that has been the culture. There is a danger that us who are moving towards the recession then at the last moment some colleagues will come along, that is not the way we should function.

We must all do our homework in good time so that we can function and do justice to the work but if the Honourable Minister, my dear friend Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration is going to say there is this urgency and within a week's time we can do, we will be as usual amenable to listen but then we have got to know almost yesterday to be able to make the necessary arrangements because otherwise Members are already preparing all sorts of Committee activities.

Most of you have been familiar with this kind of work so give us the

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necessary advance notices and we could look into that without necessarily committing the House to that now. Is that fair? So with that, yes please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND NATIONAL SERVICES: Honourable Speaker, if we start bending our rules we will keep on bending. We all knew when this session will end and we should have already started to be within. If we start extending we will keep on extending but at every session something will come, some issues will come last minute and we will keep on extending, no. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: I owe you my thanks and appreciation for that understanding but of course there is always room in the flexibility. I am not (interventions). So can we accept that we adjourn and continue tomorrow? The House stands adjourned.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:50 UNTIL 2016.07.06 AT 14:30
