

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SPEAKER

Dr T-B Gurirab (Mr)

DEPUTY SPEAKER AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Prof Loide Kasingo (Ms)

THE CABINET

MINISTERS

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

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

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

DEPUTY MINISTERS

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

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

SECRETARY

Mr. J Jacobs

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Mr F S Harker

DEPUTY MINISTERS IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

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

LIST OF MEMBERS AND PARTIES WHICH THEY REPRESENT

ALL PEOPLE'S PARTY (APP)

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

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

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

NATIONAL UNITY DEMOCRATIC ORGANISATION OF NAMIBIA (NUDO)

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

RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY AND PROGRESS (RDP)

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

REPUBLICAN PARTY

Ms C //Gowases

(Chief Whip)

SWANU

Mr U Maamberua

(Chief Whip and Party Leader)

SWAPO OF NAMIBIA

Ms S Kuugongelwa– Amadhila

(Minister)

Mr B Amathila

Dr M Amweelo (Mr)

(Deputy Chief Whip)

Mr N Angula

(Minister)

Dr H Geingob (Mr)

(Prime Minister)

Dr S C Ankama (Mr)

(Deputy Minister)

Ms P Beukes

(Deputy Minister)

Mr E Dingara

Mr J Ekandjo

(Minister)

Mr B Esau

(Minister)

Dr T-B Gurirab (Mr)

(Speaker)

Ms P Haingura

(Deputy Minister)

Mr M Hausiku

(Deputy Prime Minister)

Mr U Herunga

(Minister)

Mr P Iilonga

(Deputy Minister)

Mr W Isaacks

(Deputy Minister)

Ms P Iivula-Ithana

(Minister)

Dr N Iyambo (Mr)

(Minister)

Mr J Kaapanda

(Minister)

Dr E Kaiyamo (Mr)

(Deputy Minister)

Dr R Kamwi (Mr)

(Minister)

Mr P Kapia

Prof L Kasingo (Ms)

(Deputy Speaker)

Mr I Katali

(Minister)

Ms J Kavetuna

(Deputy Minister)

Dr A Kawana (Mr)

(Minister)

Mr K Kazenambo

Ms L Lucas

(Deputy Minister)

Ms S Makgone

(Deputy Minister)

Ms A Manombe-Ncube

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

UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT (UDF)

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

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

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

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER
16 APRIL 2013
WINDHOEK**

The Assembly met pursuant to the Adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: We resume the business of the House as scheduled. Any Petitions? Any Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers?

TABLING: REPORTS OF AUDITOR-GENERAL

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

- (i) Town Council of Katima Mulilo for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2011; and
- (ii) Town Council of Khorixas for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2012.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Report.

NOTICE OF MOTION

16 April 2013

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I give Notice that the proceedings on Votes 3, 11, 13, 15 16, 24 and 28 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, table the Motion. The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.1 – 2013]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage – *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2013].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Finance moved that the House goes into Committee?

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

HON SPEAKER: Any Objection? Secondment? The Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

16 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB**

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

The Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1. – 2013]. When progress was reported yesterday, the 15 April 2013, Votes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes 13, 15, 16 and 24 had been introduced.

Vote 03 – “**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**”, **N\$122,820,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Speaker you have the Floor.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable. Members, I rise to motivate Vote 03 for your consideration. I begin by thanking Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and her entire team for the well-articulated and people-centered Budget focusing on *Growing the Economy and Optimizing Development Outcomes*. Hon. Minister, we support your notion of “*Jointly Doing More with Less*”. Equally, I thank the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and his team for excellent teamwork.

Leadership leads nation-building and sustainable social development, including poverty eradication and gender – mainstreaming and without neglecting youth empowerment. This is the House of national leaders, catalysts for promoting the Constitution, ensuring national reconciliation, enlightening the born-frees and our children generally to keep hope alive towards a brighter and prosperous future for all. It is through competence and unity of purpose that we must strive to inspire that confidence for a better future. As a wise leader has said, “*I you have no plan, you are carrying out someone else’s plan.*” Another great thinker complemented that thought saying, “*We are here on earth to do good unto others. What others are here for, I have no idea.*” We must thus not prevaricate, but lead by example and common purpose. The popular Children’s will

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB

resume next month, May this year.

That said: During the past Financial Year, the National Assembly implemented most of its activities that were planned. Starting with the Development Budget, I am happy to inform the House that the renovations to the Parliament building were completed in May 2012. The Feasibility Study for the new Parliament building has also been finalised. In this regard, a Parliamentary Committee consisting of Members of Parliament and staff will work together with the consultants appointed by the Ministry of Works and Transport to ensure the success of this project. Let me mention here that no funds were provided for this project during this Financial Year due to the late completion of the Feasibility Study. Thus, we expect work to commence during the 2014/2015 Financial Year. I very much regret about this because we are holding back progress.

Regarding the Operational Budget, apart from the practical administrative activities of the Secretariat and the House, the Standing Committees have continued to conduct their oversight activities in different Regions of the country. Exchange and study visits were also undertaken to other Parliaments in the region and internationally to further strengthening inter-parliamentary relations. Financial assistance to Political Parties represented in the National Assembly remained an item and represents 24% of the Budget. A Joint Parliamentary Committee was established with the view of strengthening cooperation between the two Houses of Parliament with a particular aim of looking at the structures and needs of Parliament as a whole. More on this will be reported at a later stage. Making Parliament visible and getting the citizenry to participate in the law making process also continued to be a priority.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the National Assembly for this Financial Year, is requesting an amount of One Hundred and Twenty Two Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty Thousand Namibian Dollars (**N\$122,820,000.00**) for both the Operational and Development Budgets.

This amount requested will be utilised as follows:

16 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB**

Programme 1 – Legislative Management:

N\$14,872,000.00 (Fourteen Million, Eight Hundred and Seventy Two Thousand Namibian Dollars). The aim of this Programme is to provide leadership and guidance on and support for the respect of National Assembly proceedings and procedures and related administrative services to the Presiding Officers and Members of Parliament generally.

This Programme will ensure the speedy and accurate procession of legislation, session papers, the production of the Hansard, as well as the provision of timely, relevant and constructive support to the Presiding Officers.

Programme 2 – Coordination and Support Services:

N\$107,948,000.00 (One Hundred and Seven Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Eight Thousand Namibian Dollars). This Programme consist of three main activities as follows:

Activity 1 – Parliamentary Coordination and Support Services:

N\$57,712,000.00 (Fifty Seven Million, Seven Hundred and Twelve Thousand Namibian Dollars). The purpose of this Activity is to provide administrative support and legal advice to the Vote's Programmes and to ensure proper financial management, optimal deployment of resources and capacity building.

The Activity will also focus on implementing the relevant requirements of Human and Financial Resources. It will also focus on staff training and capacity development for Members of Parliament.

As indicated earlier, the renovation to the Parliament building was completed in May last year. The amount of **Five Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$500,000.00)** on the Development Budget this Financial Year, is to pay the retention fees to the contractor.

16 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB**

Activity 2: Information services:

N\$9,180,000.00 (Nine Million, One Hundred and Eighty Thousand Namibian Dollars). The main aim of this Activity is to provide relevant and up to date information, research, and library and ICT services to Members of Parliament and the Secretariat. It is also involves the improvement of communication through innovative use of technology by providing adequate ICT services at Parliament.

Further, with collaboration of the National Council public awareness on the functions of Parliament will also be intensified. On 11 April 2013, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Honourable Chairman of the National Council and the Rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia for the development of a new parliamentary website.

Activity 3 – Parliamentary Committee Services:

N\$41,056,000.00 (Forty One Million, Fifty Six Thousand Namibian Dollars). The main purpose of this Programme is to render on-going and effective services to the nine Standing Committees of the National Assembly in their quest to perform their constitutional oversight mandate. Parliament pays membership fees to the SADC Parliamentary Forum, IPU and CPA and thus also participate in these Parliamentary organisations activities including PAP. The AU Commission and PAP are yet to do more than talking to enhance competence. The IPU has raised the bar and the UN expects our inputs as National Parliament as well. With that, more resources will be required.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, in conclusion, I now urge you kindly to approve the request of **One Hundred and Twenty Two Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$122,820,000.00)** for Vote 03. Further details regarding Vote 03 can be found on Pages 47 – 53 of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework as well as Pages 43 – 48 of the Estimates of the Revenue Expenditure books. I thank you.

16 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 11
HON DR GURIRAB**

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you.

Vote 11 – “**NATIONAL COUNCIL**”, **N\$74,997,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Speaker you have the Floor.

HON SPEAKER: I queried why I should be doing this on behalf of the other House and this is not the first time that I am saying this because I assume the responsibility to table and motivate this Vote and, therefore, by implication to answer questions from the Floor, I know nothing. We sought legal advice on this and I read the opinion as provided by the legal person; for the item as assigned, Honourable Chairperson of the National Council is not a Member of the National Assembly and he can, therefore, not do what I am saying he should be doing to defend his own Vote. However, apparently the lawyers discovered that the constitution is silent on this matter, so rather than trying to amend the Constitution, we must regularise and amend the Standing Rules and next time he will be doing this himself.

He wants me to say; Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of this august House, I rise before this august House to motivate Vote 11 of the National Council, which outlines the House of Review’s expenditure estimates for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

The Namibian Constitution empowers the National Council to investigate and report to the National Assembly any subordinate legislation, Reports and documents referred to it by the National Assembly. In addition, the Constitution mandates the House of Review to recommend legislation on matters of regional concern for consideration by this very august House.

Against the above background, the National Council takes this opportunity to account for the **Fifty Four Million, Three Hundred and Ninety Four Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$54,394,000.00)** that was allocated for its

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 11
HON DR GURIRAB

Operational and Developmental Budget during the 2012/2013 Financial Year.

During the Financial Year under review, the National Council implemented two Programmes. **Programme One:** *“Enhance Public Participation in the Lawmaking Process”* and **Programme Two:**

”Strengthening the Review and Oversight Function” of Members of the National Council.

Under *“Enhance Public Participation in the Lawmaking Process”*, the National Council had targeted 55% of citizen participation. However, it actually attained 58% of citizens’ participation, thus exceeding the target by 3%.

The main contributing factor to this success was the effectiveness of civic education programmes that the National Council conducts at public events such as career fairs at educational institutions and at local trade fairs. For example, communities of the Endola Constituency in the Ohangwena Region and those of Khorixas Constituency in the Kunene Region benefited greatly from similar programmes that the Chairman of the National Council conducted there during the year under review. The topic of discussions was the importance of citizens’ participation in the law-making process.

Under *“Strengthening the Review and Oversight Function”*, Members of the National Council went through several training activities aimed at enhancing their skills and competences in lawmaking and oversight functions. Parliamentary Standing Committees undertook study Programmes to sister Parliaments in the region and beyond. The objective was to study the implementation of such Houses’ national policies, gender protocols, oversight roles, and the legislative framework that governs their gender equity programmes.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honorable Members, the National Council has diversified the capacity building initiatives for its Members, complemented by exchange visits to other

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 11
HON DR GURIRAB

Parliaments and organisations. Members have participated in training on Budget Formulation, Bills scrutiny, the oversight function, climate change and its impact on the environment.

Through its Parliamentary Standing Committees, Members of the National Council have conducted oversight visits in different Regions of the country.

The objective was to acquaint themselves with the progress made with regard to Programmes implementation as per the MTEF provisions; utilisation of funds as per the approved *Appropriation Act*; and to establish whether intended beneficiaries were indeed benefitting from Programmes. The Standing Committees tabled Reports in this regard in the Chamber which, upon approval by the House, were referred to the relevant Offices/Ministries/Agencies (OMAs) for information and action.

The National Council has an active Women Caucus which, during the year under review, conducted outreach Programmes to the Caprivi, Kavango, Oshana, Omusati and Kunene Regions. The Programme focused on assessing the effectiveness of implementation of HIV/AIDS treatment, the treatment of expectant mothers at health facilities, and the registration of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC). In accordance with the UN Bangkok Rules, the Women Caucus also visited prisons and rehabilitation centres around the country to acquaint itself with the conditions under which juveniles and female prisoners live.

The Development Budget was spent as projected on a Feasibility Study to construct all outstanding office accommodation needs of the National Council. The actual construction work on this project is scheduled to commence during the 2014/2015 Financial Year.

Over the next twelve months, the National Council plans to carry out activities guided by its new Operating Programme, titled “*Supervision and Support Services*.” This Programme focuses on two main activities, namely: “*Strengthened Capacity of Review and Oversight*” and “*Coordination and Support Services*.”

The activities under “*Strengthened Capacity of Review and Oversight*”

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 11
HON DR GURIRAB

entail the conduct of outreach programmes that the Presiding Officers undertake annually. The aim is to create legislative awareness among members of the public and to explain what their benefits are from the Laws enacted so far. The Programme also encourages citizens to actively participate in the lawmaking process.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the National Council remains committed to honouring its regional and international obligations. These include affiliation to the Pan-African Parliament, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and other parliamentary organisations. The National Council is convinced that such affiliation will enable Members to strengthen their legislative capacity through exchange of best parliamentary practices. Equally important is the conduct of public hearings during which Members solicit public inputs into the legislative process.

The legislative function has become dynamic and challenging, hence the dire need for skills for Parliamentary Standing Committees to efficiently scrutinise Bills. As such, capacity building continues to remain one of the priority areas in the National Council's quest to enhance its oversight and legislative functions.

In order to fully implement the objectives of Main Activity Two, the National Council requests an amount of **Ten Million, Six Hundred and Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$10,603,000.00)** during this Financial Year.

The second main activity relates to *“Coordination and Support Services”* which aims at improving the citizens' understanding of the role of the House of Review. As a result, civic education programmes will remain geared towards sensitising citizens on the extent of their democratic rights to participate in the lawmaking process. To this end, civic education programmes shall continue to feature prominently in the National Council's annual activities as outlined in its Strategic Plan.

Since 2010, the National Council has undertaken to conduct one session in one of the 13 Regions of the country each Financial Year. The objective

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 11
HON DR GURIRAB

is to meet our stated commitment of “*taking Parliament closer to the people*”. During this Financial Year, the National Council shall conduct a Junior National Council Session. Its objective will be twofold: firstly, to create an opportunity for Namibian youth to debate current issues which affect their lives; and, secondly, to sensitise the youth on how Laws are made and their importance.

In fulfilling its international obligations, the National Council feels privileged to host the 44th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Africa Region Conference from 19 to 27 July 2013. The conference will take place in Windhoek where over 500 delegates are expected to participate.

The National Council requests an amount of **Sixty Four Million, Three Hundred and Ninety Four Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$64,394,000.00)** to meet its commitments under Main Activity Two.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the success of implementation of the afore-mentioned Programme, and its two main activities, depends on the support from this Honourable House. It is for this reason that the National Council humbly requests this august House to approve a total amount of **Seventy Four Million, Nine Hundred, Ninety Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$74,997,000.00)** to cover its operational commitments during the 2013/2014 Financial Year. I thank you very much, he says, for your support.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you.

Vote 28 – “**ELECTORAL COMMISSION**”, **N\$221,245,000.00**, put for Introduction. Honourable Speaker, you once more have the Floor.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honorable Chairperson. I am also doing this on an agency basis and I advocate that this body also finds its place to be seen and directly be held accountable for what it does so that we can interrogate them, which we are unable to do at the present time.

Honorable Members, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the Budget for Vote 28 of the Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

A total amount of **N\$221,245,000.00 (Two Hundred and Twenty One Million Two Hundred and Forty Five Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is being requested for consideration and approval by Parliament.

The ECN has three main Programmes under its Budget namely:

- (1) Administration of Elections;
- (2) Voter Education and Information Dissemination; and
- (3) Supervision and Support Services.

The breakdown of the three Programmes of the Electoral Commission is as follows:

1. Administration of Elections

The purpose of this Programme is for holding of regular elections as per the *Electoral Act*, (Act 24 of 1992) as amended, to ensure good governance and the consolidation of democracy.

The major activities to be carried out under this Programme include:

- (1) Registration of Voters,
- (2) General Elections and By-elections;
- (3) Computerization, Management and Maintenance of ECN Logistic,
- (4) Research, Human Resources and Resource Centre,
- (5) Legal Challenges,
- (6) Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Registration Kits.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

1.1 Registration of Voters

An amount of **N\$89,089,000.00 (Eighty Nine Million and Eighty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is being requested for the conduct of the General Registration of Voters (GRV) as provided for under Section 15 of *Electoral Act* (Act 24 of 1992) as amended. By Law, the ECN is required to conduct the GRV every 10 years and the last one took place in 2003. Therefore, the next GRV is scheduled to take place during 2013.

1.2 General Elections and By-elections

An amount of **N\$700,000.00 (Seven Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is earmarked for General Elections and By-elections, the latter being triggered in the event of the resignation or death of a member of a Regional Council. Based on past experience, the ECN has learned that the occurrence of such unforeseen eventualities is unpredictable in nature and the ECN must have contingency measures in place ready to conduct at least 3 By-elections during any given Financial Year.

1.3 Computerization, Management and Maintenance of ECN Logistics

An amount of **N\$870,000.00 (Eight Hundred and Seventy Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been earmarked for the computerization, management and maintenance of the ECN logistics.

1.4 Research, Human Resources and Resource Centre

Since the inception of the Electoral Commission in 1992, the institution has been inundated with requests from various stakeholders.

The compilation, verification and production of electoral data are obtained from various sources. Apart from general and best practice global electoral information, other often required information include votes cast per polling station, gender participation on polling day, analysis and review of the electoral data before and after elections in relation to planning, organization and personnel as well as public opinion. In order to

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

keep pace with current and latest developments, it is imperative that the ECN continues to review and improve the Electoral Law and practice by engaging legal and other experts. In order to achieve this objective, an amount of **N\$1,450,000.00 (One Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been allocated to Research, Human Resources and Infrastructure Development.

1.5 Legal Challenges

The ECN has faced post-election legal challenges arising from electoral disputes observed during past elections.

There is absolutely no guarantee that the ECN would not encounter such challenges in the future. In the light of the above, and in order to cater for such unforeseen eventualities, an amount of **N\$2,000,000.00 (Two Million Namibia Dollars)** have been allocated for legal challenges.

1.6 Electronic Voting Machine and Registration Kit

An amount of **N\$300,000.00 (Three Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been allocated. The 2009 *Electoral Amendment Act* provides for the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM's) by the ECN. The procurement process of the EVM have been completed and paid for in full. However, the ECN would still need to purchase consumables and other accessories necessary for the smooth operation of the EVM's and Voter Registration Kits (VRK's). Thus, the ECN must make the necessary provision for the countrywide training and implementation programmes of the EVM's and VRK's.

The Commission has also started with preliminary preparatory work for next General Voters Registration process. Similarly, the Commission after consultation with stakeholders, has resolved to introduce a mobile electronic registration of voter's kit to be used for data capturing during voters registration. The most important motivation and justification for the use of an electronic system of voter's registration is efficiency, speed and accuracy of data. The Commission is confident that the introduction of an electronic system of voters' registration will go a long way in

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

perfecting the voters' register which is always a contentious issue before every election and often the reason for court cases.

2. Voter Education and Information Dissemination

An amount of **N\$46,134,000.00 (Forty Six Million, One Hundred and Thirty Four Thousand Namibian Dollars)** has been allocated for voter education. The purpose of conducting voter education and sharing of voter information is to increase citizens' level of understanding of electoral processes and ensure full and active participation in these processes.

Voter Education is imperative in order to increase participation of eligible voters in the election processes. The conducting of countrywide voter education is in line with the SADC election principles to which Namibia also subscribes.

Furthermore, the ECN has recognized the need for gender and disability mainstreaming in voter and civic education, but most importantly, to make the whole electoral process accessible to people with disabilities. At this point in time ECN cannot afford to exclude any persons from the electoral processes and it took it upon itself to take measures to design operational and communication strategies that ensure access, understanding and active participation for all.

Similarity, ECN has recognized the need for gender and disability mainstreaming in the electoral processes, hence the need to have special activities in the voter and civic education to make the whole electoral process accessible to all genders and people with disabilities.

The main activities to be carried out under this Programme include:

- (1) Voter Education Publications, Production and Publicity;
- (2) Regional Voter Education;
- (3) Research, Monitoring and Evaluation; and
- (4) Regional Voter Education Capacity Building.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

3. Supervision and Support Services

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to all the ECN's Programmes to ensure the proper financial management, optimal utilization of the allocated resources and other administrative issues. In this regard, an amount of **N\$70,845,000.00 (Seventy Million Eight Hundred and Forty Five Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been allocated to ensure the smooth running of the day by day activities of the Electoral Commission of Namibia.

Honorable Chairperson, Honorable Members, this presentation makes a case for the Activities and Programmes that the ECN wishes to undertake this year, I now wish to entreat this august House to approve the Budget for the Electoral Commission of Namibia for the 2013/2014 Financial Year. I thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you Honourable Speaker for motivating three Votes within a reasonable time.

With that we can break for tea.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 15:40

HOUSE RESUMES AT 16:20

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: The House is called to Order. Before we start I would like to remind the Honourable Members that we are at the

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MUHARUKUA / HON ULENGA

Committee Stage and this means that you stick to the specific Vote for discussion. The ICT mechanism will be introduced; you are each given five minutes and after your allocated time lapses, you will be automatically shut down.

Vote 13 – “**HEALTH**” put for Discussion. Any discussion? Honourable Muharukua.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 13 and I would also like to congratulate the Minister and his Deputy for a job well done. Comrade Minister, I would like to thank you for the good things you have done, particularly in the Kunene Region. You have visited my Region several times even during the campaigns against Malaria and Cholera. I also have a message from the parents whose children you sent to the Nursing School. They are very grateful for that.

I would like you to assist me on Thursday and ask Honourable Mutorwa during the Discussion of Vote 20 about the lack of water in hospitals around Opuwo. The water is only available during the day and there is no water during the night. That is my only request. I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON ULENGA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to start by saying that I very carefully listened to the Minister’s Statement yesterday and I also had the opportunity to go through the statement again by myself. To say that I am

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON ULENGA

amazed or taken aback by the style and the attitude of the Minister as expressed in the speech is to make an understatement. I have seen, especially starting from Page 1 of the Minister's speech, that the Minister follows the similar style of other Ministers whose speeches are full of, *'patting each other on the back'*, congratulations, felicitations and commendations all over the pages.

However, in the current atmosphere of what is happening in the Health Sector, Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I think such language is completely uncalled for. To have full and great honour and privilege, to be delighted and happy is completely uncalled for. I think there should be less arrogance and less self-confidence, because such attitudes will be truly and totally out of place, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. There should be a somber, humble, contrite heart and spirit expressed by the Minister given the current situation and especially given the contents of the Report that has been recently made public. I am talking about the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Public Health Sector, which the Minister also referred to. Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, to be precise, having stated the fact that the Minister should show more contrition, I want to ask some specific questions.

Why is there, throughout the speech no admission from the Minister, a statement that says, the Minister himself, not just the Ministry, admits that there has been serious shortcomings? Why is there no attitude that he is at least apologetic and humbled, especially with regard to the fact that there are people on the ground right now who have lost loved ones? I do not even want to get too much into this topic because it is sensitive indeed, but really I expected another attitude and another approach from the Minister. (Intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER, EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: On a Point of Information. Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, let us stop saying unnecessary things all the time. Some of those issues have already been

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MAAMBERUA

discussed about two weeks ago. Let us talk to the Vote. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Member, continue.

HON ULENGA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have a specific question to the Minister coming from Page 6 of the speech, the Ministry is aware of the national outcry and all managers are now under strict instructions. Can the Minister explain whether it has indeed been the situation that people were not instructed to keep to the strictest limits of discipline?

Secondly, on Page 8, the Minister is talking about a Programme dealing with donor-funded Programmes, as a result a total number of medical doctors and pharmacists have been transitioned. I do not understand fully, perhaps the Minister can explain further. On the same page the Minister further talked about the availability of an affordable technology to provide for artificial limbs within an hour. There was a time I went around this country trying to get this and I was told that such facilities are not even available in neighbouring countries. (Intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Ulenga, your time is up. Honourable Members, do not start with the general comments, go straight to the specifics. Honourable Ulenga, for example, started with general comments and now his time is up. Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Allow me to start by acknowledging some

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MAAMBERUA

improvements that are noticeable, particularly on matters that were of concern to me sometimes in the past surrounding some hospitals. I am not going to deal with issues close to my heart such as the introduction of a health ombudsman and interpretation services in hospitals because of the time constraint.

I will, therefore, confine myself to the Budget figures. Honourable Minister, Honourable Members, to start with, I want to refer you to the Medium Term Expenditure Framework particularly Page 206, regarding the Vote of the Ministry of Health. There are milliards of problems and also good intentions of the Ministry as expounded by the Minister in his statement. However, it is noticeable that the Budget of the Ministry is actually on the decline side. The Ministry is going to get an unapproved N\$5,245 billion this Financial Year, during the next Financial Year it is going to decline to N\$5,22 billion, etcetera and then the last year – that is now over the MTEF period, N\$4,9 billion. That is a very serious concern to me. It is a concern because this decline is affected by two main factors; you can see them on that page:

1. **Administration**, specifically the remuneration. Remuneration will come down. Given the shortage of professionals like nurses and doctors, are we not going to recruit more nurses? Why is the remuneration figure or amount coming down, Honourable Minister?
2. **Infrastructure Development**: The Ministry would like to have more infrastructure development to meet the needs of our people and yet the Budget Allocation to the infrastructure development is also decreasing over the years. That is a very serious concern and something must be done to reverse this situation, perhaps during the next Financial Year. Otherwise we will see the same decline in health provision over the next years to come.

The next observation is again on the same page, looking at sub categories under the figure for Environmental Health, like Public Hygiene Services, Food Quality Assurance, Waste Management and Occupational Health Services, all these categories are allocated the same amount over the MTEF period. Is it an automatic thing or why are there no differentiations

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON UEITELE

between all those different categories of health provision? The same applies to Family Health which is only N\$338,000.00 throughout.

The MTEF figures for this year, next year and the third year are exactly the same figures in most of these categories in the Ministry of Health.

Honourable Minister, Honourable Members, incidentally the figures of the MTEF last year shows the same repetitions. It looks like the Budget Preparatory Process in the Ministry is a copy from one Financial Year to the next. I can demonstrate that by referring to Page 145 of last year's book, particularly when you look at categories like **Tertiary Health Care**; administration, for example, is N\$523,000 – since there are no zeros, perhaps this should be millions, for the current year, next year and the other year and the list goes on. It looks like the current Financial Year's figure is automatically copied across to the next years.

I would, therefore, like to know how is the Budgetary Process in the Ministry of Health? How is it possible that the Ministry of Finance does not pick up these things when the Ministry is presenting its MTEF figures?

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Your time is over, Honourable Member. You can come back again if you want. Honourable Ueitele.

HON UEITELE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 13, Ministry of Health and Social Services. Firstly, let me congratulate the Minister for reducing the infection rate of HIV, TB and Malaria on Page 13.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, on Page 2 the Minister said that ; *Despite the overall increase of the Health and Social Services Budget, we are still lagging behind in terms of achieving the 15% allocation of the*

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

total Government Budget Allocation as called for in the Abuja Declaration. For both the Public and Members' interests, I would like the Minister to indicate how far we are in reaching the target in terms of percentage seeing that the year 2015 is just around the corner? Thank you, very much. I support the Vote.

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

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me first of all submit my profound assertions and appreciations to the Honourable Minister of Health, Dr Richard Kamwi for the articulation of issues of national concern, particularly issues on disability as indicated in **Programme 2 – Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation** where he focuses on this Programme in the entire country.

In Programme 5, the Honourable Minister discusses issues related to developmental social welfare. This is highly commendable Honourable Minister and I would like to register my appreciation on behalf of myself and others out there. Nevertheless, I want to pose my humble questions to the Honourable Minister and they are as follows:

- 1) The appointment of the second Disability National Council Members that has been delayed for two years. Will the Honourable Minister explain to the august House and the Public out there why and how it has taken your noble office two solid years to appoint the second Disability Council Members? This paralyzed the Disability Movement and the National Disability Council at large.
 - a) I am aware that the Honourable Minister may have consulted with the Office of the Attorney-General, but how can such consultation

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

take two years and in so doing contribute to the detriment of National Disability in Namibia?

- b) Can I also take this opportunity Honourable Minister, to ask about the result of such a consultation and how it benefits the referred Constituencies?
 - c) What can be done to avoid such detrimental delays in the future, because this may be seen as a clear violation of the *National Disability Act*, an Act of Parliament and abuse of power in the eyes of the Movement?
- 2) I was reliably informed that the Directorate that deals with and advises the Honourable Minister with disability-related issues manipulated and tried to change some of the names seconded by the relevant Constituencies to be Council members. These caused and contributed to the delays and mayhem in the disability fora.
- a) How was this dealt with, Honourable Minister, if the staff in the Directorate can do such things in your Ministry?
 - b) What can be done to avoid such abuse of power and privileges in future?
 - c) In your view is that fair and just to the affected people?
- 3) A National Disability Council Report of 2011/2012 was compiled using Government resources; the Act clearly states that the Minister must lay the Report in the National Assembly within 28 days after receipt thereof.
- a) Why has the Honourable Minister not tabled the Report a year after receiving the Report?
 - b) Does the Honourable Minister still intent to table the said Report anytime soon?

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON SWARTZ

As a Member of Parliament, I have a concern over monies that we approve to be used by these entities in our society. The Honourable Members of this august House and I need to know how these monies are spent on such resources and that Parliament should be informed timeously.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, with these few remarks, I would like to support the Vote without any reservations and submit to what the Minister has presented.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Swartz followed by Honourable Moongo.

HON SWARTZ: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Minister, why does the Disability Council not constitute members of the different groups in Namibia? When will the Minister dissolve the current Council so that we can have other people with disabilities on the Board, because they will be able to understand the people on the ground and do the job better?

My next question is on Special Services on Page 20, we sit with a problem of skilled people in our country, what is the possibility of us having special skilled personnel at our District Hospitals, for example, dialysis equipment in Keetmanshoop, because currently these facilities are only available in Windhoek and people must travel from far to access these facilities. Is it possible to extend these types of services to other Regions across the country as well? I thank you and I support the Vote.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MOONGO

HON MOONGO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me first congratulate the Honourable Minister for his motivation. As we all know the logistics are not enough. The employees of the Ministry have been up in arms and crying all the time, but no solution can be found. I would like to know from the Minister of Finance whether she has considered improvements concerning overtime payment of these employees in this Budget?

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

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I do not know whether he is really genuine in what he is doing or he is simply trying to single out the Minister of Finance and to victimize her. The Minister of Finance does not determine the remuneration of Civil Servants and, therefore, for any Member of Parliament to rise in the House and say; *has the Minister looked at the remuneration of this category of persons* is nothing than an attempt to incite the Nation against that Minister.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Moongo. Just stick to your points, your time will be over and you will be ruled out.

HON MOONGO: The reason why I am saying this, is because the proposal from the Ministry of Health was high and then it was cut by the Ministry of Finance. With less the Ministry of Health will not solve its problems.

On Page 8, **Prevention of Disability Programme:** When is the Ministry

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON KAVETUNA

going to introduce and provide equipment so that even the Members of Parliament can exercise and also extend this to various hospitals in the country? Since there is a **Prevention of Disability Programme** I would like to appeal to the Honourable Minister to consider bringing equipment here and to all the State Hospitals. Thank you, very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Kavetuna followed by Honourable Ulunga.

HON MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to congratulate and also to express my gratitude for the burden that the Ministry of Health is carrying, especially on issues that affect us as Namibians. There is a high rate of staff shortage, especially in the nursing department. I think they try to address it systematically. As a registered nurse by profession I really know the burden the people are carrying at hospitals.

I know that the Ministry does not have a Directorate of Nursing Services; I know it used to be there (intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Point of Order!

HON RIRUAKO: The nurses are sworn in before they start working and promise to obey all the Laws, however, we have incidences where they deviate upholding the Law. We have to fulfill our promises. Why do you

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON ULENGA

not want to mention it? You said you took an oath as a nurse, not a registered nurse but an enrolled nurse. You cannot forget what you ought to be.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Kavetuna.

HON MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE: We need a Directorate of Nursing Services that will be responsible for nursing care, for example, their uniforms, and their behaviour in society etcetera. I would also like to recommend the recruitment of the lower level of a nursing component that we call staff nurses or we can refer to them as ward assistants or nursing assistants, who will feed, wash and do other things while the enrolled and registered nurses will care and give other treatment to the patients.

The Budget allocated to the Directorate of Public Health is very little because we believe that prevention is better than cure, therefore, when we pump a lot of money in the prevention process we will have less burden on the system. Let us try to look at ways how we can allocate more money on Public Health rather than spending a lot on curing. Thank you, very much. I wholeheartedly support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Ulenga followed by Honourable Iilonga.

HON ULENGA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, thank you very much. Again a specific question regarding the Minister's Statement on Page 5,

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON ULENGA

with regard to Quality and Standards in the Ministry, the Honourable Minister is stating that (intervention)

HON SHIXWAMENI: I just want to find out the correct judgment by the Presiding Officer. The Honourable Member just spoke for about five minutes that he was supposed to speak. Why do we not allow others to speak first and then we can give him a second chance later?

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: We can do that, no problem. Yes, Honourable.

HON ULENGA: Thank you, as I have already started. Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the Honourable Minister stated; *to this end, all our health professional staff are undergoing in-service training on the best health practices*. Can the Honourable Minister state specific dates in detail when this Programme started? I have a reason to ask this, the Colleagues will understand. I am experiencing some credibility problems as far as the Honourable Minister's Statement is concerned because this matter of quality and standards is indeed the issue that that voluminous Report is dealing with, so can the Honourable Minister give the dates? Is it the last two weeks or the last two months so that we can know which Programme is in place right now?

I would also like to comment further that I do not understand why the Honourable Minister should quote all these high polluting words like mentioning every international health organizations when we know things are not going that well at home. I would like to thank one of the previous speakers with regard to the questions concerning the Disability Council. However, I still have a number of questions concerning alleged corrupt activities, serious allegations indeed and I hope the Honourable Minister will be able to deal with this and satisfy the House with regard to the non-

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON IILONGA

existence of these practices. Apparently there are unauthorized people signing documents whereas others including the Minister are supposed to do the signing.

The other issue has already been put on the Table by the Honourable Member that spoke on this issue before me; I still reserve my right to come back. Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

HON ASSITANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Iilonga followed by Honourable Bezuidenhoudt.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 13 and I would like to start with **Human Resource Development and Utilization**. I am on record repeating what I always say; for us to undertake these measures aimed at addressing staff shortage, we had a very good Programme of nursing assistants that we destroyed. Nursing assistants are the backbones of the health profession. We also used to have training for nurses at entry level who used to receive allowances and they were in contact with the patients on a daily basis unlike now where we equate them with teachers. We deal with patients' lives and we have experience about what happens when we transfer them to the University, I do not want to go into detail on this.

Secondly, on Page 6, point 5 – **Overcrowding at Health Facilities (Katutura and Oshakati Intermediate Hospitals)**, we have the former white hospital, which is underutilised let us use this hospital optimally to reduce overcrowding. We can continue training our human resources as usual to reduce staff shortage. Otherwise, the health personnel and the Minister are doing a lot and the result is self-explanatory; we have seen the reduction in death rates, HIV infection, let us continue working hard to ensure that our next generation is HIV free. I support the Vote.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON BEZUIDENHOUDT

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable *Ekanda*. Honourable Bezuidenhoudt followed by Honourable Witbooi.

HON BEZUIDENHOUDT: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I will be brief and I will just focus on Page 7 of the Honourable Minister's Statement where he mentions the **Health Information Management System**. The health of the people is extremely important as well as the care thereof and medical information is vital to be able to diagnose and know what to do with a person.

On the review, because the Honourable Minister did not review the old Statement, but in the second document that we got, there is a review on **Corporate Governance and Information Technology**. This one goes to all Ministries that have motivated their Votes with regard to systems. The Statement that is in the Review states that there are several systems within the Ministry of Health and I will also say, several systems within various other Ministries, however, these systems are not harmonized or linked and I think this is something that the Minister should take seriously to be able to draw relevant or complete information from the various interlinked systems. Our own e-governance policy of the Government, calls for (intervention).

HON RIRUAKO: Honourable Mutorwa, I am not pushing anybody, but this kind of behaviour can sometimes get something in return. On a Point of Order, (interjection) no, I did not say you, but you are shaking your head and I do not know, but that is what happens when you do not have a chance to talk.

Honourable Gentleman, May I say this? You do not have to say that (intervention).

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON BEZUIDENHOUDT

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Chief, you cannot speak on a Point of Order.

HON RIRUAKO: It is a Point of Order and I have the right to talk and if you deny my right then let us talk about it. May I say this? Casualties are there, but the job is not efficient. There are no people to take care of casualties and the Honourable Minister is aware of the fact that he needs to increase the personnel in order to meet the requirements.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Please continue.

HON BEZUIDENHOUDT: Honourable Chief totally misunderstood me, I did not talk about personnel. I spoke about systems, we have relevant and important information of medical data of individuals and these systems need to be harmonized so that whenever the medical personnel need to treat a person, he/she can have access to complete information.

I was at a point where I referred to our national e-governance policy, which calls for interoperability of systems and that is a must and I would just like to highlight to the Assembly that these things will be discussed in the future in this House and we must remember that systems that are not harmonized are hampering the operations of many Ministries. My question to the Minister is that he should give us a timeframe, if possible, when the health systems will be harmonized. Thank you very much.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON WITBOOI

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Witbooi followed by Honourable Kaura.

HON WITBOOI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I commend the Minister for upgrading some training institutions to introduce the Registered Nurse Programme as indicated on Page 5, this was long overdue and I am happy with that. I am not defending the Ministry, but amidst the challenges, you are trying your best because sometimes we only see one side of the coin. High Registered Nurse staffing is associated with less hospital related mortalities, the more nurses there are, the lesser the deaths and other problems. It is, therefore, clear that Namibia needs more nurses.

However, Honourable Minister, my question is regarding the admission requirements of Grade 12 students at the training institutions for Enrolled Nurses. A Grade 12 learner needs 20 points, some say 22, in five subjects and 2 of the five subjects must be Science subjects while one of the subjects must be a language, which is English. In other words, for the 20 points and five subjects, a learner may not include another language than English to make up the 20 points. Apart from the 2 Science subjects and English no other language is included. Since English is the medium of instruction and the official language, I completely understand why it is one of the five subjects and the Science subjects are the essence of that particular course, however, I cannot understand why one cannot have another language to make up the 20 points. We are preventing students who have an additional language to make up the required 20 points from studying nursing. Why are we preventing students with a passion for nursing, why are we restricting them, why may the five subjects not include an additional language? With that I support the Vote, thank you.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON KAURA

followed by Honourable Shixwameni.

HON KAURA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. On Page 13 of the Minister's Speech – **Reduction of Maternal Mortality Rate by ¾ by 2015** and it states that; *“Again using 1992 Demographic Health Survey data, maternal mortality stood at 225/100,000 live births.”* However, the Honourable Minister states that by 2012 it has reduced to 118/100,000 live births, but it is stated that insiders describe conditions at maternity wards as shocking. Katutura Hospital has been without water for the past six weeks and no records have been kept in the maternity wards since January. Doctors are said to be using buckets to provide water to their patients in the maternity wards because of broken basins and toilets. Doctors in the Gynecology Department had to postpone three urgent operations due to the lack of water in the main theater. No cold water in the maternity wards and doctors have to use hot water to scrub up before surgery. The same center had no water for two weeks. Surgical gloves are either too big or too small making surgery cumbersome. There are no patient booklets to keep patient records. At the Central Hospitals, power keeps trapping even after renovations were made. A 22-year-old woman died last month at the Central Hospital after 30 hours of labour. Door handles are completely broken while cupboards are falling apart. The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Health and social Services, Andrew Ndishishi confirmed the deteriorating conditions at the maternity wards.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I have a problem, if the maternal mortality reduced to 118/100,000 live births under these appalling conditions, should we believe the Honourable Minister? That is my question. Thank you very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Shixwameni followed by Chief Riruako.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON SHIWAMENI

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to start off that; in light of the Presidential Commission of Enquiry on Health, I have very serious reservations in supporting this particular Vote in its current state because it is unacceptable when you look at the recommendations of the Presidential Commission of Enquiry on Health that our health system and our health facilities have been deteriorating over the past years. (Intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Point of Order. Honourable Deputy Minister.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: On a Point of Information, Deputy Chairperson, we are all aware that this Report was tabled by another Honourable Minister and not by the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services, we can, therefore, wait until the Report is ready for discussion instead of discussing a Report that has not yet been discussed in the House.

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

HON SHIXWAMENI: I have not finished my qualifications why I do not support the Budget in its current form. I was just stating the fact that, given that Report, this House is supposed to interrogate the Health Budget in its totality and see whether over the years the money that we pumped in the health system has given us the results that we require.

However, coming back to the Budget, **Disability Prevention and**

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON SHIWAMENI

Rehabilitation, on Page 8, Honourable Minister, I must say that I am sorry to say this under your Budget, but I spoke about it when I was talking during the Budget of the Office of the Prime Minister, I have just discovered that there are basically three disability units in our Government; one in the Office of the Prime Minister, one in the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the other in the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture and it seems that all these three units are not talking to one another. Honourable Minister, I will suggest that we find a way of coordinating these disability issues at one central point so that we can provide them with more money to mainstream their activities. We cannot have three units, each one doing a separate job without talking to each other. That is one point.

Still under Disability Prevention, the Orthopedic Department at the Oshakati State Hospital is experiencing a problem because the Ministry of Veterans Affairs does not buy prosthetic parts from that particular unit.

They rather prefer to buy parts from either South Africa or from private doctors whilst we have a unit that is manufacturing these parts right under the nose of the Ministry of Health and Social Services. There is even a wheelchair manufacturing institution right there at the Oshakati Hospital, but the Ministries that are responsible for veterans and for disabilities are buying wheelchairs from somewhere else leaving these units in the Oshakati Hospital which are manned by disabled people themselves. What are we trying to say? Are our own institutions that are falling under the Ministry of Health and Social Services not better than buying from private doctors and from South Africa for that matter? (Intervention).

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Just for Information sake, we buy wheelchairs and other prosthetic parts at the Ongwediva workshop, which is owned by a veteran who is an invalid himself. If there are parts that cannot be found in the country because of their sophisticated nature then that is a different thing. That is for your information.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON SHIWAMENI

HON SHIXWAMENI: I appreciate that particular kind of information, but we visited Oshakati Hospital and were briefed by the men who are in charge of the Orthopedic Services, people with disabilities who are manufacturing these wheelchairs themselves briefed us. They were complaining as to why our own Government cannot purchase these products from them. However, it is good that you are purchasing some wheelchairs from a veteran.

Page 4 – **Human Resource Development and Utilization;** I would like to see the Ministry returning to the old system. Let the nurses be trained at the cost of Government, but let us also find incentives to retain both nurses and doctors in the Public Service, because the problem that we have around human resources, particularly the retention of specialists in the Public Service is the issue of grading and salaries. We, therefore, need to seriously revisit these things, I know that the Minister and his Deputy are trying their best, but I think these are some of the issues that need to be looked at, otherwise we will have the whole health system collapsing and we cannot afford that. That is why I qualify that, in the face of the Report of the Presidential Commission of Enquiry, your Budget, indeed needs to be increased because we need to maintain the infrastructure, but we also need to build clinics.

For those who know the concept of the inland in the Kavango, I just visited the inland of the Kavango where you have villagers walking 7 to 10 kilometers to the hospital. How can a sick person walk 10 kilometers to a hospital? The person will die on his way to or from the hospital. That is why I am saying that, in the face of the Report from the Presidential Commission of Enquiry, I would have liked this House to interrogate that Report so that we can put more resources in the health system (Intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you. On a Point of Information, Honourable Shixwameni, I think the talk is not simply for a matter of expressing meaningless things. We all know that people travel long distances and it

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON SHIWAMENI

is not new to the Government, but Rome was not build in one day and this is a system that was here ever since this country became independent, therefore, we are in the process, that should be understood (interjection)

HON SHIXWAMENI: But the people are dying.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: No one wants anybody to die. (interjections) that is your position, but what I am saying is that; Government has a system of building clinics already and even bigger hospitals in this country. Are you saying that you know better than us or the Government?

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Please continue, but do not repeat yourself.

HON SHIXWAMENI: I do not repeat myself. My doctor from Seeis is wrong, no one has monopoly over knowledge, I think we are here to share what we know. All that I am saying is that, the Health Ministry caters for everybody in this country and it is probably even more important than the Education Ministry because everybody goes to the hospital, everybody makes use of the health system whilst a portion of the population has to be educated. That is why I am saying, let us interrogate this Budget properly and see what can be done to turn the situation around in the health system in order to make sure there are resources provided. We are a rich country, let us mobilize and make sure that the resources are there to ensure that our health system is one of the best on the African continent.

I will move on to Page 10 – **TB and Leprosy**, I was really shocked to

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON RIRUAKO

hear that Leprosy has picked up again, but I must also congratulate the

Ministry for doing its best in relation to the fight against TB. However, the Minister has to explain to the Nation why Leprosy is picking up again. What is that that the preventative health system has done wrong that this disease is reoccurring again? I would further like to ask a question to the Minister; before Independence, we had the Mashare Leprosy Hospital, why was this hospital closed and the people there left to fend for themselves?

In conclusion, I would appeal that we interrogate the Health Budget and look at it properly in the face of the Presidential Commission of Enquiry on the Health System, to see whether we can cut on the *Wabenzis*, luxuries and certain things that are not basic necessities of this country in order to uplift the health system of our country. With those few remarks, I rest my case. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Chief Riruako followed by Honourable A Tjongarero.

HON RIRUAKO: I second my Colleague who was just speaking now, he was quite supportive. I cannot listen to people who stay close to those places, but do not know anything about them. (interjections) it is a pity to hear you say *haama* (sit) while we are here to defend what we have at hand and not to let them die. That is not what we seek, we think about their survival, as we have to survive because of them. That is a fact that you cannot ignore. I am not really accusing the concerned Minister, the amount that is involved is inadequate to meet all the requirements, but we normally used to have *bush clinics* in the absence of the necessary infrastructure to reach the people where they are because it is our duty to take care of our people irrespective of where they are. There is no way out to give excuses; saying we do not have the facilities, we have transport

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON A TJONGARERO

that can reach those places so there are no excuses at all.

We cannot just defend our own salaries here without seeing what we are paid for. (Interjections) that is irrelevant to our belief. We do not go there to see the area, we know why we are going there. We provide a Report back in this House and if action is not taken, it is our duty to revive it for the sake of those who are there.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am not here to be disturbed by those who are *jaloers* (jealous), I can be disturbed by people who are this way, people who can compete and share ideas. Unfortunately these people are allowed to say what they want during speeches while others take care of those who are in jeopardy.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much Honourable Chief. Your time is over. Honourable Tjongarero.

HON A TJONGARERO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to congratulate the Ministry and its entire staff for the hard work; I know it is very difficult.

I am on Page 5, concerning training. Thank you that you are training so many health workers, but I only have one advice for the Ministry; the day the Directorate of Nursing Services was abolished was the day we found ourselves in the mess we are in today. I request the Honourable Minister and his entire staff to re-introduce the Directorate of Nursing Services. Thank you.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON JANKOWSKI / HON LIMBO

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I will be very brief. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Minister of Health and Social Services for his hard work and also his team that is always with him.

Honourable Minister, I think you need some help, we need to separate Health from Social Services so that the Ministry of Health can dedicate its responsibility and time solely on health related matters and let the Social Services be detached from the Health Ministry. Another thing that I would also like to know is whether all the resources that are allocated to the Ministry of Health are being spent effectively and sufficiently. Thank you very much and I support the Vote.

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

HON LIMBO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. First of all, I would like to support what Honourable Shixwameni was saying. Looking at the problems of the Ministry of Health, even the day before yesterday, the Minister told us about the problems we are facing in this country of poor infrastructure, overcrowding and all other problems. We tend to ignore what the Colleague was saying, but it is true that we need more money for this Ministry. I am not saying that we should do it now, but we need to consider that in the future if we want to do justice to this Ministry

Coming to Page 10, I was also one of the people who were very shocked to learn that Leprosy has re-emerged. I know how severe this problem is. If one has regard to the paragraph concerning Leprosy, it seems like the Ministry itself does not have much activities or money allocated to this Programme, but the World Health Organisation (WHO) is spending quite a substantial amount of money here. I would, therefore, like to urge the Ministry to try to combat problems as much as they can with the same

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MUTORWA / HON ULENGA

vigour they put in the fight against Malaria. Something should be done before many cases are detected by deploying teams in the affected Regions to screen some people in order to determine the extent of the problem because reading from the same paragraph it seems that the Ministry is not very sure how many people are affected. This means that not much research was carried out to assess how serious this problem is. I would, therefore, like to request the Ministry to allocate more resources to this Programme in order to keep us informed about the occurrence of this disease in the Regions indicated on the said page. I thank you very much.

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

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: I am rising under the provisions of Rule 114(b)(iv) –to seek clarification on a procedural matter, not to dispute the Ruling by the Chairperson, but if I understood correctly, the Deputy Chairperson was saying that during this Committee Stage a Member may rise twice, thrice, fourth before the Minister has been given a chance to respond. I just want to establish what Rule that is. Where is it according to our Rules? Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Minister, I think that you are right, but if you look on Page 25, Rule 29 you may get some information as well as on Page 27 – *Discussing Votes*. Honourable Ulenga, I will just give you one minute.

HON ULENGA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I will see whether I can manage within one minute. First of all, I would like to refer the Minister to the *Villager* of the 8th to the 14th of April – “*Health is Sick*”.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Please go to the specific point, there are no Newspapers here.

HON ULENGA: Yes, they are health issues they are serious issues. Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I am concerned with the so-called mental health services, they seem to have a negative approach and attitude. Can the Minister make sure that they are overhauled?

Lastly, there has been a serious retardation with regard to the so-called traditional doctors, what is the Minister's attitude and what does the Minister plan to do? For example, there was this infamous case, apparently a doctor who has been going around, doing all kinds of things and infecting people under the guise of healing them. What is the Ministry's attitude and action that will be taken against them? (Intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Your time is over, one minute is over. Can the Honourable Minister please respond?

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, according to what I have recorded here, 19 Members took the Floor. Permit me to thank all Honourable Members who took the Floor, who put relevant questions, comments and indeed the other Honourable Members who in silence, I certainly know you support Vote 13 without reservation.

I will attempt to respond, as questions were put to me and to the Ministry at large, where I can. *Honourable Muharukua*, thank you for your kind words, we are aware of the critical water situation experienced in Opuwo

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

District and not only Opuwo District Hospital, but that there is a challenge related to water in Opuwo District. I thank Honourable Minister, John Mutorwa with his team who are working around the clock. We know for certain, that there are no crises, but challenges.

Honourable Ulenga, you had a barrage of questions and comments that you have made, most of which I am afraid I will not answer you directly. Why am I saying this? I want to draw your attention to the fact that a while ago, late last year, his Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia in his own wisdom as a dignified leader and listener, listened to the concerns as raised by the general Public and he deemed it fit to put in place a Presidential Commission of Enquiry to look into the affairs of the Ministry of Health and Social Services. We all know that the Commission traveled the length and breadth of the Republic and Namibians were called upon to give maximum support to the Commission. I am on record that I welcomed the Report and I called on my team to cooperate and we have done so, together with the general Public. The Report was compiled, it was brought before us and it is with us in this Chamber. I would have thought that given what his Excellency has done that at some a certain, Parliament in its own wisdom was going to find time to Debate and look at the recommendations as were cited by this very professional team. You are now putting questions that are cited in this Report and expect me to respond. It is, therefore, for this reason that I am saying to you, I am afraid that I may not be in a position to respond directly to some of the questions.

Honourable Maamberua; the question you put to me is the same question you put to the Honourable Minister of Finance when she tabled the Budget. The information that I have at my disposal is that the figures as cited here are correct even as of this morning, I sat together with the Honourable Deputy Minister and the Permanent Secretary and we looked at these figures. The Financial Advisor also shared with us that the figures are correct and when I came in here, my sister, the Honourable Minister of Finance again confirmed the correctness of these figure in terms of the MTEF. I do, of course, appreciate some of the issues of concern that you raised in terms of declining resources, but this has been the trend, we have never suffered so much in terms of that challenge.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

Honourable Ueitele, on the reduction of infection and where we stand with the Abuja Declaration; I first want to thank the Honourable Minister for increasing the Budget by 32%, however, in terms of the Abuja declaration we now stand at 11%.

Honourable Manombe-Ncube, on the appointment of the Disability Council that was delayed for two years; the delay was more of a technical nature and the second part was financial. We have had most of the concerns coming from most of the Regions and also Honourable Swartz raised one of the concerns about the representation of Council. Most Namibians feel that the Council that we have is not well represented in fact they cite that the majority is in Windhoek. We took this matter up with the Attorney-General, but even after following his advice more questions still remain unanswered, however, the matter is being addressed. We will see the Council functioning during this Financial Year. The same applies to the Report that is in question here; I cannot get into detail on how funds were utilized.

Honourable Swartz, I just answered that question by saying the delay is more of a technical nature. We are aware of the concerns being raised. On the question of kidney dialysis; kidney dialysis is a specialised service, which can only be accorded in a national hospital like the Windhoek Central Hospital. We have plans to roll it out to the intermediate hospitals and that is; Katutura, Oshakati and Rundu, but as for now, I am afraid; we have to use the one that we have in the Windhoek Central Hospital. Most of the cases that we have are referred to the Private Sector with a MoU in place. As I said, this is a specialised area and we do not have the expertise on the ground, but we are working around the clock to address it.

Honourable Moongo, thank you for your usual interest on the related health matter. For quite some time, you have been vocal on this matter, but as I said, the Report we have is addressing this matter. It is maybe important that I should quote from this Report that is before us, on Page 78 Section (d) Health Care Financing, I quote 102, the Commission has the following; “*as your Excellency specifically stated ‘Value for Money’. It is one of the things the Commission wants to examine in the health system. There is no question that the Public and the health workers in*

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

Namibia have a very high expectation of the outcome. The demands are, however, such that Government is unlikely to meet all the financial resources needed. There are high expectations on both Capital and Recurrent Budget with exceptionally high expectation on upgrading and building of new health facilities, upgrading of equipment and increase human resource. This will also call for more expenditure on transport, consumables and medicines.”

Honourable Members, you may wish to know that His Excellency has in fact given my team; the Honourable Deputy Minister, the Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, our Special Advisor and me to study this Report, chart the way forward and advice him accordingly, however, as you may be aware, if you read it carefully, the Commission is very clear on the same page that the way forward to address this is that we address it now, medium and long term which is ten years from now and it is only then when we will be in a position to address the real challenges that we are faced with, all that is in this Report and we have already done some work. We have made our submission to his Excellency and he is studying it, but on the other hand, you too have a part to play, therefore, study it and advice accordingly as he informed you when he was here.

Honourable Kavetuna, thank you for the observation you have made, indeed as a registered nurse, you are aware of these challenges. A Directorate of Nursing that you and ***Honourable A Tjongarero*** cited is in the pipeline in the sense that our restructuring has reached its finalisation stage and soon it will be forwarded to the Office of the Prime Minister for his consideration. In the mean time you may wish to know that we have since established another cadre of Extension Health workers who will be playing the role that assistant nurses used to play. We have already had a pilot project in Opuwo District with a total of 40 and we found it to be working. We have been on a study tour to Ethiopia and we found it working there, it is also working in Malawi and Zambia. There is, therefore, a need for us to adopt good practices that work elsewhere. We are now in a position to roll it out and if you check in the very same Motivation, it has been budgeted for.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

Honourable Ulena, I do not need to repeat this as I said earlier on. ***Honourable Ilonga***, thank you for your observation, we are aware of that and it is for this reason that we have decided to get out of the box and came up with training for a diploma in Registered Nursing and I have no doubt in my mind as we are working around the clock, hopefully towards the end of May we may be in Keetmanshoop to commission it.

Honourable Bezuidenhout, thank you most sincerely for your observation, you may wish to know that we already have an e-health system, we are now in a position to roll it out to all our hospital settings, that is, all the 34 hospitals including the intermediate hospitals. For now it is central in the Windhoek National Hospital. Your observation in terms of harmonisation is relevant.

Honourable Witbooi; the requirements for Enrolled and Registered Nurses, what I can give you for now is that, for the new cadre, I checked this morning and the requirements for Registered Nurses is 24 points and in terms of subjects; Mathematics, Science and Biology will be a requirement, however, we also thought about the marginalised group of Namibians and for them it will be 21 points instead of 24 points. I saw some of the comments relating to that here, may I also give information that following the wide range of criticisms related to attitudes and agency in terms of tackling the challenges as they arise, we decided that we must go for a serious commitment in terms of binding them through signing an agreement that will commit them so that it will be the Ministry to dictate instead of them so they will go and work where we place them.

Honourable Kaura, I wish to inform you that before you were given that information we came to know about it and I am glad that you quoted the Permanent Secretary. We have challenges that one does not need to deny and we are working around the clock on it. I do know that last week Tuesday I met my senior Colleague together with our senior management where we discussed the matter at length and the assignment was given to our Permanent Secretaries, and by Monday we already received the Report in terms of progress made. Challenges are there but not insurmountable and I trust it will be resolved.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

As for the Report on maternal health, I can rest assure you that the figures that we are having are correct, some figures were not cited by ourselves, but by the World Bank, WHO, UNICEF and even UNFPA. We are doing some work, my special advisor is a specialist – gynecologist and he is working around the clock to ensure that towards the end of this month, we will be in a position to share what we are doing in terms of addressing these challenges of maternal and neonatal health with the Nation. There is definitely progress; deaths are on a decline. Water pipe bursting does not deter us from facing the challenges that we are experiencing in the maternity wards. When there are such challenges, we make arrangements and there is always a provision.

Honourable Shixwameni, thank you for your support and your observation, as I said earlier, I think his Excellency, the President was very clear that we should study this Report because it is good for Namibia. On Disability Prevention, this is out of my mandate, but it falls directly under the jurisdiction of the appointing authority, I wish it could be like that, but as I said, it falls within the mandate of the appointing authority. I would like to thank my senior Colleague Dr Nicky Iyambo for giving you a good answer in connection with your question relating to Orthopedics.

On Leprosy, in terms of the epidemiology, this is a trend in many Public health settings. You find that some of the diseases that were eliminated or eradicated, resurface at some time, it is not that there has been some negligence, not at all. We are working collaboratively with WHO, I should maybe cite here, to answer it together with **Honourable Limbo's** question. Whereas you quoted from Page 10, I will refer you to Page 11 where I said on top there that; *"I am glad to report that in February 2013 we launched the National Guideline for the Management of Leprosy."* It means that we are serious in terms of addressing this *re-emerging* disease and we say *re-emerging* because it is something that was there before. WHO is a technical UN Agency that advises Member States technically and, yes, the Leprosy Mission is an Agency too that assists Member States, we thus thank them for the support they are providing.

Honourable Riruako, thank you for the support. **Honourable Jankowski**, thank you. Resources are put to good use, however, there are competing

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON MAAMBERUA

challenges out there and at times you find yourself cracking your head, wishing you had so much. Even in a situation that you have that much, you do see some of the resources going back, not because we have done it deliberately, but because we are faced with a challenge of expertise who can carry out a proper job to our expectations.

Honourable Ulenga, the last part that I can respond to is that of the so-called traditional doctors. According to WHO, as a Member State we are advised to work with traditional healers. We now have a *Traditional Healers Bill* in place, which is with the Cabinet Committee on Legislation. It will be discussed and this coming Thursday, my Deputy Minister will be there to table it as it is already on the Agenda Items. I thank you all for the support.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Any Objections?
Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you for giving me the Floor. I think it is important that we make a correction there. When I was pointing to these figures, I was not judgmental; I did not say the figures were wrong. All that I am saying is, if 90% of the Budget of every Ministry remains the same, item by item, over a three-year period, it means that inflationary adjustment has not been taken into account, price changes have not been taken into account and Programme adjustments have not been taken into account and that is exactly what is happening here.

Let me give you an example, for **Other Pharmaceuticals**, exactly the same figure is shown over the three years, it is not possible. **Medical Related Supplies** also show the same figure over the three years, but taking all these things into account, it is not possible. For the rest is the same sort of story. I think the Ministry has some wonderful accountants and if those accountants who can keep prices constant across a period of

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 13
HON DR KAMWI

three years could be transferred to the rest of the Ministries in Government, we shall have a wonderful day. I thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: It is a good observation, Honourable Maamberua, may I ask that we be given time to go and have a look at these figures? I appreciate your observation.

HON MEMBER: What about the *bush clinic*?

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Honourable Riruako, let me answer your *bush clinic*. The technical name for the *bush clinic* is Outreach Services and these services are in place, we are thus, already working on it. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Any Objections? Agreed to.

Honourable Members, before I put Vote 15 – “MINES AND ENERGY” for Discussion, I ask the concurrence of the House to Suspend the Business for 3 minutes. The Business will Resume when I return.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 15
HON SHIXWAMENI

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE
HOUSE COMMITTEE:**

Vote 15 – “**MINES AND ENERGY**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Shixwameni.

HON SHIXWAMENI: My brother, Honourable Katali, I just have one short, quick point. On Page 4 of your Statement – **Energy Supply and Security**, I must partly declare my interest in the Energy Sector and my question is; for the last two years, I have watched that the price of Brent Crude Oil and the price of New York light has remained constant, but for the past two years we are almost getting an increment in the price of petrol and diesel, almost on a quarterly basis, what is the National Energy Fund doing to try and make sure that it cushions the shock that is being administered to the motorists and the manufacturers so that price do not just simply increases every quarter? Petrol has really become expensive. Those of us who drive private cars really feel it; probably those who drive cars using petrol orders do not feel it, but the price of petrol is getting higher. It is almost getting to the edge of N\$12.00 per liter. I think it is time that we look at it carefully. I understand that we do not have control over the prices of crude oil internationally, but the National Energy Fund must be capitalized to such an extent that motorists and manufacturers are cushioned against these price shocks.

I would also like the Honourable Minister to explain; is there nothing that can be done in the mean time so that we do not see price increases in petrol and diesel in the next two to three quarters? That is all that I wanted to ask. Thank you.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 15
HON MOONGO / HON RIRUAKO

HON MOONGO: Thank you, very much. I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy about a promise that was made by many other former Ministers about individual transformers that those who connected to those transformers should contribute to the Energy Fund. It costs the individual lots of money and we cannot continue exploiting the individuals while the Government is there. I thank you, very much.

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

HON RIRUAKO: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I do not have to look at the page I have everything here, if I sit together with the Honourable Member, he knows. Why are we not using diesel from Angola after all they are using it in the north? If we use the oil there nobody will complain about it. Why can we not make use of this opportunity? We are looking for it and as long as we do not have it we have to use this route in order to meet all the requirements that the Nation needs. It is cheaper, but we are not saying we have to put petrol in, but the diesel will at least lower the price. The Government should think about the diesel in Angola.

The Kudu gas has been there for more than 20 years, but it just does not give us anything. We pump money into it without getting anything in return. This thing must be taken care of in order to satisfy our needs. They cannot go further than that. This is the way you want it and we cannot force you, but you have to think sometimes, and take care of what you think is right for you and for us.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 15
HON LUCKS / HON KATALI

HON LUCKS: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have a very short question to the Honourable Minister regarding the diesel that is currently sold in Namibia. There is a big coal from the Industry especially from people who sell cars in Namibia to lower the sulphur content from 500 parts per million to 50 parts per million. Can you tell us what the plans are for the future to introduce 50 ppm diesel in Namibia? Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. My voice is not well, I will try my best, but if it fails me I will ask the Deputy Minister to respond to some of those questions.

Honourable Shixuameni, I think it is not correct to say that the NEF has not been helping the increase in petrol and diesel, we have been doing that and it is good that you are aware we do not have control over the price of oil, but the NEF has done its best not to increase the price of petrol and diesel at the rate it was supposed to have increased. These are some of the things that you may not have realized, but the truth is that the NEF is there and it has been working as intended.

The NEF fund exists through the money collected from the sale of petrol and diesel; it does not receive money from other sources. Therefore, capitalizing it means that we must increase the price of both petrol and diesel in order to make more money for the NEF, which I think in the current situation where the price is increasing all the time, we are not able to increase those levies. The question as to whether there is nothing that can be done, I do not really see any other way to reduce these petrol and diesel prices. However, if you have any ideas or proposals you are welcome to bring them so that we can see what can be done.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 15
HON KATALI

Honourable Moongo, yes, I promised that I was going to work on the transformers when I joined the Ministry in 2010 and also in 2011. In May 2011 the issue of the transformers was addressed as follows:

Those buying transformers and allowing others to connect to those transformers would receive some rebate from NORED. However, it was difficult to do this retrospectively that everybody who was connected before the policy changed should also receive the rebates. It works like this; even if you were connected before that and now somebody else comes and connect there, you will receive some benefits from that connection.

Honourable Riruako, this question has been going around for some time. Why do we have Angola producing oil and we do not get oil from Angola? It was not long ago, when my Permanent Secretary this year traveled to Angola, upon his return I went back with him and we were trying to see how Angola could help us with diesel and petrol. While we were there we realized that Angola has only one refinery working, the Luanda Refinery, while they are busy constructing the Lobito Refinery as well as the Soyo Refinery. We also learnt that Angola is only able to produce 30% of the fuel that they are using in their country. Angola is actually importing 70% of their oil and, therefore, they are not able to give us anything. We were advised to look for a refinery somewhere then they could provide us with crude oil for us to refine it ourselves.

It is true that oil and diesel in Angola is cheap, however, it is not cheap in real terms because the Angolan Government is tremendously subsidizing it. They are going in the direction that it is not sustainable to their economy and they are trying to reduce the subsidy. Therefore, if we get oil from Angola it is not going to be cheaper because the Angolan Government will not subsidize the oil they will be exporting to us.

The last one by Honourable Riruako is the Kudu Gas; the Honourable Member said that we are pumping money into this project, I do not know how much money was pumped into the Kudu Gas as yet. Someone once said to me, why do we call it Kudu maybe it is an elephant. However, I would like to assure this House like I mentioned in my Motivation that we

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 15
HON KATALI

definitely lost a lot of time, we have been debating about this issue, but last year Cabinet reaffirmed that we must develop Kudu. It is our national project, it is our priority and it is going to work well for our country than any other power-generating plant we might think of. We would have enough electricity that would enable us to export what we do not need.

However, there are challenges along the way that we are trying to address in terms of the forex because the Kudu Gas is going to be sold to NamPower in US Dollars. If NamPower is to make good business and avoid the risk of foreign exchange they need to sell some of it in US Dollars otherwise the fluctuations of the Namibian Dollar against the US Dollar will affect NamPower's balance sheet. These are some of the things that we are working on as we go along. At the end of this month we are going to receive a request from Namcor and NamPower what Government can guarantee in terms of their portions. By the end of the year the joint development plan would have been finalised and the final estimates will be made in March next year. This means that if everything goes according to plan, by the second part of 2017 we will have power coming from this animal called Kudu. We are working very hard to make this a success.

Honourable Lucks, your question is timely because on the 1st of June we are going to phase out Petrol 93. Once this is out then the 50-ppm system will come on the stream, it has already been rolled out. There is going to be a very fierce campaign on that, if you look at my Budget you will find that money has been earmarked for such a rollout. I think I tried to address all the questions, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee

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

Vote 16 – “**JUSTICE**” put for Discussion. Honourable Moongo.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON MOONGO / HON RIRUAKO

HON MOONGO: Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson. I am happy that the Ministry of Justice and the Finance Minister made an adjustment to the Traditional Community Court. However, this adjustment was only made to the higher Traditional Community Courts. My question now is; if you have given N\$120,000.00 to the higher Traditional Community Courts, why do you not extend this adjustment to the lower Village Courts as well, they are the ones doing the donkey work? Without the lower Village Courts, the higher Traditional Courts do not have work to do. I, therefore, appeal to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Finance to also adjust the lower Village Courts so that it is in line with the modern setup. Thank you very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Chief Riruako.

HON RIRUAKO: Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I have a problem with all the existing South African, Dutch and Roman Laws that still remain our Laws. These Laws must be repealed. If there is any job to be done, you have to start correcting yourself here. All these Laws are attached to us, we borrowed these Laws from them, however, 23 years are too long for them to remain without any action. These irrelevant Laws are still intact and you are using them against us in the absence of the owners of those Laws, how can those Laws still be here? I think these Laws must be brought to Parliament in order to repeal some of them that are not useful to us, but they cannot exist without the ones who brought them here, unless if you want to borrow some Laws from other countries to suite our conditions as is required. However, if the Laws do not belong here, why should we keep them, for what purpose or to please who? Thank you.

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

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON MWANINGANGE / HON DINGARA

Mwaningange followed by Honourable Dingara.

HON MWANINGANGE: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I will be brief. Firstly, I would like to comment on the e-Justice system on Page 5. The Ministry has promptly moved in the right direction. I recall when we visited various Courts where the e-Justice system is installed. According to the officials, the work is much easier and they are more efficient than before, because of the reduction in paper work. I, therefore, encourage the Ministry to embark on this considerably.

My next comment is on Page 6 – **Magistrate Courts Proceedings**; especially the Magistrates in the Regional Courts. It has also been observed that the prosecution and adjudication of cases mainly depend on the availability of prosecutors and legal representatives. You will find that the acceleration of most cases is delayed because either the prosecutor or the legal representative is not present and the cases are postponed. You mentioned here that you want to accelerate this, but the question is: How do you intend doing this with a limited number of legal practitioners? Most legal practitioners do not avail themselves to Public offices, they prefer working for the Private Sector, perhaps something must be done for them to come on board, otherwise this backlog will remain and is tantamount to obstruct the justice proceedings in our country. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Dingara followed by Honourable !Nawases-Taeyele.

HON DINGARA: Thank you very much, Comrade Dr Amweelo, the Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. On Page 7 – **Administration of Justice in Community Courts**; in the new Act,

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON DINGARA

Community Courts Act (Act 10 of 2003) which is referred to here, there is a fully-fledged structure for the establishment of Community Courts. When the people are trained, they are trained to follow that structure.

We visited several communities, especially the Traditional Authorities to find out how the implementation of the new Act was going and we found out that there are some communities experiencing problems with the Act. However, when we arrived at the Ondonga Traditional Authority last year, they told us that they have been in existence for many years and they used to have their own Court structure. This structure starts at the Village up to the Chief and they managed to handle any type of cases. However, the new structure in the Act is completely different and it does not consider the existing structure of the Traditional Authority. The King is not indicated anywhere. In terms of the Act, cases must be heard as if the Traditional Authority Court does not exist and it must proceed up to the High Court. They made the point very clear to us that they are facing a dilemma implementing the Act because they have two types of Court Authority; the Community Court and Traditional Authority Court.

Comparing where I come from, we exactly have the same structure like the Ondonga Traditional Authority.

I would like to request the Ministry of Justice to go and verify whether what we found on the ground is correct or not and then after proper investigation they could bring their findings to Parliament, since all of us have the background of Traditional Authorities. This *Community Courts Act* is functioning in areas where no Court systems existed before. They implemented it because it is the only thing that is there. I have seen that it is fully implemented in places like Okakarara, the Ministry should completely investigate the issue at hand and see what is the best way forward. Thank you, Dr Amweelo.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable. Honourable !Nawases-Taeyele.

16 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON !NAWASES-TAEYELE / HON RIRUAKO**

HON !NAWASES-TAEYELE: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. On Page 6, the Honourable Minister gave us a clear breakdown of cases, both finalised and pending. These statistics are very worrisome Honourable Minister, because the cases on the court roll are more than the finalised cases. That is one area we seriously need to attend to, to ensure that the administration of justice is attended to.

Honourable Minister, I would like to commend you on the task team mentioned on Page 9. My only hope is that we continue to monitor their progress since it includes all the necessary stakeholders like the magistrate's office, the prosecutors and the legal aid to ensure that appropriate solutions are found to deal with the backlog of cases. We have presented so many Reports in this House when it comes to the accessibility of justice and I did not observe many of the recommendations that we put into the Reports, maybe the Minister should see to it that the officials read through these Reports to make sure that some of the issues raised in the Reports are attended to. Those were my comments, thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you so much. Honourable Riruako.

HON RIRUAKO: Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the point I would like to add is; when you are married traditionally, whether in or out of community of property, they say you are married in community of property that means you are compelled without any legal defense. That is a fact. If you do not have a lawyer who can defend you through abstention Law, how will this Act protect people who are not willing to marry in community of property? That is why I keep on pleading with you to repeal this sort of Law. It does not belong here. It imprisons the people against their will, because it is imposed on them without their consent. This is unfair. Think aloud and liberate those people from that kind of mistreatment.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON P MUSHELENGA

It is happening now, everybody is being forced to marry in community of properties. What is happening? If the Law is not yet changed, I do not want to say change it or repeal it, however, it should be my own will to marry in community of property. The lawyers play the fool because we are compelled without a choice. After 23 years, we have not liberated ourselves and are still imprisoned. What does that mean to you? If you want to liberate us, come up with our own Laws, ask the people what they want by giving them an opportunity to choose. I thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you so much. Honourable P Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. The points I want to raise are those on Page 4, Honourable !Nawases-Taeyele also mentioned about the backlog of cases. We are quick to speak about the independence of branches of Government, but we do not speak about the equality of branches of Government. When Parliament or the Executive does not deliver, people are quick to talk about taxpayers' money. I assume the Judiciary is above the issue of taxpayers' money.

While Judges are paid salaries by the State using taxpayers' money, they sit on cases for too long. You talk about the equality of Government branches; it is therefore, very important that each branch should be accountable for the money that is allocated to it. For the Regional Courts, I see on Page 8 that the Prosecutor-General has embarked upon a programme whereby they are going to dedicate specific Court sessions to old cases. Is the High Court perhaps not thinking of doing the same to dedicate special Court sessions to consider old cases? Is this backlog of cases a general prevalent issue among all Judges or are there specific Judges known for sitting on cases for too long? If that is the case what measures are to be taken? We need to know, so that the public know

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON NUJOMA

which Judges sit on cases, because this is taxpayers' money and I am talking about the equality of branches of Government.

Sometimes there are issues of the appointment of Acting Judges in order to solve this backlog. How effective is the appointment of Acting Judges to solve this backlog of cases? Do we perhaps need to appoint more Permanent Judges to the benches in order to solve this problem? Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Thank you very much, Honourable Members for your questions.

I will start with *Honourable Moongo* – Upward Adjustments of Traditional Courts, it is stated in my statement that N\$120,000 has been allocated to Traditional Courts. We are aware that this amount is not sufficient since new Courts will be added, because we normally depend on the recognition of the Traditional Authorities by the Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development. Once new Traditional Authorities are added that will automatically mean that some communities will demand setting up of Traditional Courts.

As you know, Article 66 of our Constitution provides for the application of Customary Law. Therefore, Common Law and Customary Law are both recognized. We are very much aware that our Customary Law is not highly developed, it is scattered among communities, it is not codified and it is not ascertained, so there are many gaps that need to be filled. Other countries have codified the whole Customary Law and started to apply one Customary Law. However, with us, as it was stated here, the Ondonga Traditional Authority applies its own customs and traditions

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON NUJOMA

while the Caprivi and Ovahimba Traditional Authorities apply their own Customary Laws and traditions. This is something which has been inherited from generation to generation, so we have to, in terms of the Constitution recognize these Courts unless we decide to abolish them.

However, it is the duty of Parliament to pass that Law and to amend the Constitution. For now we do not have a codified Customary Law and that is why the application is selective to some Traditional Authorities. As you may recall people in the South do not apply Customary Law, they apply the Common Law, but since the establishment of these Community Courts, they have to think about a new Customary Law. If there are elders there, they have to think as to what was done in the past, maybe during the time of Comrade Hendrik Witbooi and many others. That is what we need to do.

As resources become available we will train the Justices, those people who will administer the Courts and all moneys appropriated by these Customary Law Courts have to be accounted for. As ***Honourable Mushelenga*** rightly mentioned, this is taxpayers' money and there need to be a form of accountability. Therefore, we will continue with this training because we want this money to be accounted for. However, as the Community Courts increase; I am sure the Minister of Finance is listening; we will be required to establish this Community Courts.

I agree with ***Honourable Dingara*** that we need to visit these Courts to find a way on how we can effectively operationalize these Courts. These Courts are very important and are doing a great job; they are reducing the backlog and are also assisting normal Courts of law by imposing penalties in murder cases, like fining criminals to pay the victims' family a number of cattle. These have deterrent effects, it has been proven to work. In some communities families have to flee to avoid paying fines for their family members. Some were fleeing to Kavango while some fled from Kavango to Omusati, that way we managed to maintain peace and unity.

Honourable Riruako we are dealing with obsolete Laws on a daily basis by amending the Laws here in Parliament. When we introduce new Laws we get rid of some of the old Laws. However, I agree that there are still some of these Laws on the statute books and that is why we created the

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON NUJOMA

institution called the Law Reform and Development Commission. They assist with these matters, of course we do not have experts or specialists to deal with some of these issues, but we are trying the best we can. The Law Reform must live up to its mandate and come up with a new statute as soon as possible where we will abolish all these archaic Laws we have inherited, Roman Dutch Laws, English Laws etc.

Honourable Dingara I agree with you on the *Community Courts Act*, because of the obligations of the Constitution we are trying to set up some structures. This is a new thing, it has only been recognized at Independence and it has its own teething problems. As I mentioned earlier, we are busy training people who will administer these Courts, but the application of the Law remains the problem, unless we codify one Law. However, all these remain challenges.

Honourable !Nawases-Taeyele, about finalised and pending cases – you are aware that we are facing challenges in this society. We were just discussing the health problems here; the population has increased and inequality has widened, as a result cases are coming up. At the same time we have introduced so many human rights standards and everybody now knows his rights – rights without responsibility. Therefore, there are challenges within families; there is violence against women and children, divorces. All these are challenges facing the society. Our forefathers in the past, if you can ask Honourable Hamutenya he will tell you, used to marry more than ten wives, but today the modern wife wants to be the only one. The challenges also include gender equality. People like Honourable Ilonga will argue that marrying more wives will sort out some problems because very few women will remain unmarried.

Honourable Riruako, on marriage in community of property, we understand, our Customary Law provides that if you marry in the North or Okakarara, for example, you marry in community of property, that is the current Law. However, there is a *proviso* that according to the existing Law you must have an ante-nuptial contract signed 30 days before getting married. In the absence of that the Court will interpret the Law the way it is now. Also remember that we passed new Laws like the *Married Persons Equality Act* and new Laws on divorce. When you go the

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON DR KAWANA

Magistrates' Courts to get married you have the right to decide whether you want to get married in or out of community of property. To advice Honourable Riruako as an adult and citizen of Namibia, why do you not make a will so that you eliminate any doubts as to your status with regard to marriage?

Honourable Mushelenga, on backlog of cases, equality and independence of the branches of Government – the Constitution provides that the Executive and the Judiciary are equal before the Law. You are correct when you say that the independence of the Judiciary must also come with responsibilities. Therefore, if the Executive is under scrutiny so should the judges be, but you should not forget that we have been advocating for the independence of the Judiciary so that they can carry out their work without the undue influence of the Executive or the Legislature. The Judges are appointed by the President on recommendation of the Judicial Service Commission, therefore, there is an institution which guides the behavior of the Judges and if there is any type of misconduct on the side of the Judges, I am sure the Judicial Service Commission will take care of that. That is similar to the Magistrate Service Commission which recommends the appointment of Magistrates to the Minister of Justice.

We have the built checks and balances in place, but there is abuse sometimes. I am aware that there has been a public outcry that some Judges have been sitting on cases. However, I am sure that the Chief Justice and the Judge President assist with these matters and they are being dealt with. With those few remarks, I think I have answered your questions. Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON DR KAWANA

of the Whole House Committee. Just a footnote to what my Colleague had said. In my capacity as a member of the Judicial Service Commission regarding the independence of the Judiciary, indeed my Colleague is correct when he says there are avenues whereby Judges are disciplined and one of them is by way of recommendation by the Judicial Service Commission. For the information of the Honourable Members of this House, the Judicial Service Commission has come up with guidelines with regard to the finalisation of cases. Therefore, if a Judge does not comply with those guidelines he will have to answer to the Judge President, if it is at the High Court and if it is at the Supreme Court, to the Chief Justice. If the problem persists that matter will now be dealt with by the Judicial Service Commission itself and which will recommend to the President for appropriate action. That is the system already in place, and we were also able to give leave to one of the Judges who I cannot mention here, so that he can finalize his outstanding cases within a given timeframe.

Therefore, that issue is really receiving attention. In addition, as soon as we go in recess, myself being the Attorney-General and the Honourable Minister of Justice have agreed to tour the whole country to make sure the system really ticks, because at the moment, especially the lower Court level leaves a lot to be desired. We need to jack up the system a little bit by engaging all the stakeholders, the Private Sector through the Law Society of Namibia, for legal practitioners. The Magistrates must also be included in the entire overhaul system as well as the Police, especially the investigators. Together with the prosecutors, we are currently busy training the Investigating Officers from the Police, because that is where the system is really very weak. We need to coordinate now so that some of this backlog can be reduced.

In addition we want to come up with a special programme to reduce this backlog and we are planning to start with Khomas so that the system will tick. That is the information I wanted to add.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Chief Riruako, do you want to

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 16
HON RIRUAKO

say something?

HON RIRUAKO: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I do not say these things to myself, I say it to the Public who are at liberty to do what they want to do, but not to be forced to do it because the Law does not allow them that opportunity and if they do not, they must be given advice on how to do it. (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. The Minister of Justice explained that. Any Objection? Agreed to.

Vote 24 “**TRANSPORT**” for Discussion. Honourable Shixwameni.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, let me congratulate the Honourable Minister for a comprehensive rundown of the projects that the Ministry is engaged in, armed with this information people can be able to appreciate the work that the Ministry is doing.

Secondly, whilst we are building a lot of roads, particularly those that are being upgraded to bitumen standards or tarred roads we need to emphasize on the quality of the roads that are being build. It is very essential that quality roads are build so that they are sustainable and are not maintained on an annual basis. Let the roads have a life span of at least three years before they can be maintained. In order to maintain the quality of roads, the contractors must be held accountable. If one looks at the road at Onathingwe to Ondangwa, that same portion gets maintained each year. What quality of material is being used in that portion of the road? That is not the only road. I just gave it as an example.

The Maintenance of Gravel Roads: It is of pertinent importance that

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON MUHEUA

graders go out regularly to level these gravel roads. My next example is the Unange road to Onyati, if you drive on that road you will not believe that it is a gravel road, in fact people have created two side roads next to it. They do not drive on it, because if you are to drive on the road itself, you would be driving at exactly 20 to 30 kilometers per hour to get to your destination. That emphasises the quality of the roads we are building. However, gravel roads need to be re-graded quite regularly. That is what I wanted to contribute, thank you.

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. The main reason I am rising is to support the Vote of my favourite Honourable Ministers, and also to take the opportunity to squeeze in a small question on Page 4, the last paragraph.

The people of Erongo were very happy when we heard that the trunk road from Omaruru, Okombahe and Uis alongside the trunk road from Swakopmund, Henties Bay, Uis and Khorixas to Kamanjab will be upgraded to bitumen standards, but after reading this paragraph I unfortunately observed that the Omaruru-Okombahe-Uis road has been omitted, could this be a typing error? That is the only question I have for the Honourable Minister and I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Katjavivi, followed by Honourable Ueitele.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON PROF KATJAVIVI

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I rise to compliment the Minister on a very impressive list of achievements so far, with regard to the progress made and ongoing in terms of transport infrastructure development across the entire country.

The construction of bridges along the Okahandja-Ovitoto road on Page 7, is a very important development. Not only will it facilitate the movement of those in transit, but also the commercial farmers in the area stand to benefit greatly from this development. Since this year we have not experienced heavy rains, there is absolutely no reason why this job could not be expedited so that it is completed on time.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, on a related note can I make a plea to the Honourable Minister to kindly look into the deplorable conditions of roads within the Ovitoto communal area itself, especially the following villages which are hilly and rocky and need roads, site clearance and special furrowing?

- Ombungururu;
- Otjivahiona; and
- Okasuvandjuuo

In addition to this, within the Okasuvandjuuo area we have a community cemetery where our famous son, Jackson Kaujeua has been buried. The road to this cemetery is totally impassable. I wonder whether the Ministry could deploy personnel and resources from the Road Construction to assist in making this road accessible. Any assistance that the Minister and his team can offer in this regard will be much appreciated by the community.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, last but not least I have a special request with regard to the construction of the bridges; word is already coming from the Ovitoto community that even with just small limited rains the adjacent culverts already got blocked and created some flooding. This raises concern of poor workmanship even before we complete this important job. The contractors either used a wrong size of culvert or they wrongly

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON UEITELE

positioned a correct culvert. The volume of the stream could have been under estimated or the bricks were not placed to hold back filth or rubbish that could block the culverts, either way I will do a follow up on this important matter and report back to the Honourable Minister, personally.

This is too important to be left hanging and we have to do everything possible so that the job is done and addresses the overall objectives of this project. With this and without any hesitation, I support the Vote. I thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable Professor. Honourable Ueitele followed by Honourable Haingura.

HON UEITELE: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also rise to support the Vote. One of my points, which was on the quality of roads was mentioned by Honourable Shixwameni already.

Honourable Minister, with your speech here I noticed that you are doing a great job with all these projects in the pipeline and the ones that have been completed. My concern is that I have not seen a road connecting a clinic to the main road, for example the clinic in the Oshikoto Region, Onakazizi Clinic. This clinic is about 40 kilometers away from the main road, but it takes about an hour to reach there because of the poor quality of the road. I, therefore, would like to appeal to the Minister if possible to look into this, because most of the challenges in the Ministry of Health are partly contributed by the poor state of our roads.

The road from Olupandu Clinic to the Omungwelume road does not exist anymore and people are not able to get to the clinic during the floods. I am requesting the Ministry to assist the community in upgrading this road. I support the Vote. Thank you.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON HAINGURA / HON VAN DER WALT

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Haingura followed by Honourable De Walt

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to commend the Minister for all the information he gave us.

My comment is on Page 8, the Minister is coming up with a viable programme to construct access roads connecting Community Centers and Health Facilities. This is very crucial, because it is almost impossible at the moment to save the lives of pregnant women. It takes about 3 hours to reach clinics like Kandjara in the Kavango Region, Hedimbi in Oshikoto Region and the one that was mentioned by Honourable Ueitele earlier. I would like to request the Minister to liaise with us in order to identify those clinics.

I want to request the people or companies awarded Government projects to contribute to the society by building schools as part of their social responsibility programmes, because while they receive millions there are children who are still taught under trees. Honourable Minister can perhaps look into that and see if it is possible.

From this N\$3 billion what portion goes to women and the youth as part of the empowerment drive we are preaching? Thank you, I support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Van Der Walt followed by Honourable Manombe-Ncube.

HON VAN DER WALT: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to congratulate the

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

Honourable Minister for the well-prepared document. I previously mentioned that we are doing fairly well with regard to our gravel roads.

I am not sure if Honourable Katjavivi was speaking about the same road, but the roads I would like to see tarred are the ones from Okahandja to Otjozondju, Hochfeld and then Okondjatu to Grootfontein, because that will shorten the road from Windhoek to Grootfontein with 120 kilometers. I do not know if this is a farfetched dream, but I find the Eurostar in Europe very effective and I am asking or thinking loud, why as Namibia, we cannot take the lead, Honourable Minister and start our own Southern African Star, which will combine Botswana, Angola, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Zambia like the Eurostar does in Europe?

Airlines are becoming very expensive and this will enable people to move from one country to another for one third of the cost. However, this can be a combined effort involving all the Southern African countries, not only Namibia. This is just an idea, I do not know if it makes sense. With that I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Manombe-Ncube, please.

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, let me also join the others by congratulating the Minister on the well-outlined Programmes in his statement and also for providing a safe and effective infrastructure and services for the people of Namibia.

Honourable Minister, based on that as per the provision of Article 9 in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Namibia being a signatory to it, the State is required to ensure that transport is also accessible to people with disabilities. Platforms could be created to enable them to easily access public transport, for example railway stations where

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON KAVETUNA

people in wheelchairs struggle to get onto trains and large displays for those that are visually impaired. The train drivers can also be trained to acquire sign language skills to enable them communicate with hearing impaired individuals. Thank you, Honourable Minister. I support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Kavetuna followed by Honourable Dingara.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: Thank you, very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, I would like to support this very important Vote that links every corner of our country.

My comment is on Page 5, **TR14/2: Otjinene-Grootfontein**; I have been privy to information that the road construction is going through a smaller village where people are complaining about grazing and other things. I, therefore, would like to advice that the original idea that the road has to go via Okondjatu should remain and not be divert to destroy the smaller areas where people are struggling with grazing.

On Page 4, **TR14/2: Gobabis-Otjinene**, I thing this could have been a typing error, because the paragraph reads like "*the first phase of the Gobabis to Grootfontein road was completed in June 2012*". I am not aware of that and the distance between Gobabis and Grootfontein cannot be 157 kilometers. This is my contribution. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Dingara followed by Honourable Ulenga.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON DINGARA / HON ULENGA

HON DINGARA: I genuinely rise to support this Vote. I heard what others were saying about the condition of the roads, especially the gravel roads. However, it is not good to compare when you only have Namibian roads. In the last two years I was exposed to many SADC countries, and my experience in some of those countries is that you would drive a 20-kilometer gravel road for three hours. All the gravel roads I have seen in Namibia are of high standards. Our sister countries would be very happy and appreciative if our gravel roads were to be given to their countries. I have seen this and I know some of the previous speakers are only comparing the Namibian roads, they do not know other countries' roads.

Honourable Minister, I genuinely do not want to ask you a question, you are doing a good job, and you spoke well and gave us good information.

We must, therefore, just thank you and congratulate you. Thank you, very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Ulenga followed by Honourable Kapia.

HON ULENGA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. The speaker just before me is commending the Minister and in this case I will also echo those commendations. If there is one thing that has been enjoying proper attention in this country is the development of this particular type of infrastructure. Of course sometimes one gets the impression that the person on the ground does not have that much to gain, but still it is quality infrastructure.

I have tested most of the roads that the Minister mentioned here. The Rundu-Elundu as far as I am concerned, Rundu-Eenhana is a wonderful highway. Opuuo-Okahao-Omakange-Iitananga, very good, as well as the Kamanjab-Omakange. However, Honourable Minister you are really

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON ULENGA

putting up a very ambitious Programme here, come next year everybody would want to see how far you have gone. I see you put a total stretch of almost 2,000 kilometers to be upgraded to bitumen standards down here, only in the next Financial Year. I hope you are not putting up too much on your fork. There is a particular road that has always irked me and this is the piece of road between Oshakati and Omungwelume. I do not know what is happening there because this road has been under construction to be tarred for the past 7 years or more and this is only a 30-kilometer piece of road. Every time you drive along this road you will notice that the tar has been removed and you wonder whether it was something that has been darkened to test or it is just permanently like that.

I hope, now like you said that there is money put aside to finally work on this road, this will be the final push. Perhaps the Minister will be able to tell the House who has been doing this very bad job that has resulted in this piece of road remaining the way it is. Was it somebody who won a tender which he/she should not have won or what has been going on here?

Honourable Minister, seeing that you are doing a very good job, I would like to appeal to the Government to pay particular attention to develop the so-called inland of the Kavango Region that my Colleague was referring to. The last time when I drove along these very sandy roads it took me a whole day to cover 50 kilometers. You will find wonderful pristine grazing areas, but they are not accessible because there are no roads that get onto the *Ozohambos* there. Therefore, for the development of our Livestock Industry there should be access roads build from the main road, from the towns there in the Region to the areas where production is taking place.

By the way this Omagongati-Ohakweenyanga is not in Omusati Region, this must be a typing error. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Kapia followed by Honourable Mutorwa.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON KAPIA / HON MUTORWA

HON KAPIA: Thank you, very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to firstly thank the Honourable Minister for a well-presented document that outlined the successes and Programmes of the Ministry in terms of the road infrastructure in the country. I particularly want to thank you for the modern Groot Aub bridge which was completed in a very short time. We will test it for the next five years to see how it will perform. If its performance is good then that should be the type of bridges to build in the country.

Honourable Minister, yesterday I listened to a programme on the radio about children from Onamatanga in the Omusati Region walking long distances of almost 38 kilometers to attend school at Omakange, but there is no road. There is a clinic at Onamatanga, but there is no road to get there. This village is more than 100 kilometers away from Okahao if you go straight, but it is 38 kilometers if you are coming from Omakange side.

One particular concern is Okatsiidhi, there are always incidences of snakebites and there is a clinic and a small satellite police station, a school and many other activities, but after even 10 millimeters of rainfall, this village is cut off from the main road. I, therefore, request the Ministry to put up something, even if it is not a complete gravel road, so that officials in the Region have access to the village to enable them inspect some of these places and identify the problems. That is one of the concerns I have, however the Ministry is doing a wonderful job. Thank you. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Mutorwa followed by Honourable Jankowski.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY: Thank you, Comrade Chairperson. I am simply rising to add our Sector's voice in support of this important Vote. Like my Colleague from the Health Sector stated, it is equally the same with the Agricultural Sector to get their products from the production centers to the markets, factories and

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON JANKOWSKI

storage facilities. Roads are indispensably and unavoidably necessary and I would publicly commend my Colleague here, the Minister of Transport for the closer collaboration that we are having in this regard.

I know there are still many challenges, particularly in the communal farming areas to link the farmers to their production centers and their farms to the markets. We are working very closely to upgrade the road to our national rice project at Kalimbeza, considering that we are making expansions there.

However, my question Honourable Minister, of which you may not be directly responsible, but as a Line Minister you can probably impress upon the Board of this specific organization. I had noticed that the permanent appointment of a Chief Executive Officer for the Roads Authority has been outstanding for some time now, not that I am promoting the current acting one, but I know the gentleman. I just wanted to find out maybe through you to the Board, when are we going to see the substantive Chief Executive Officer of this very important institution? We are talking about the expansion of roads, but you implement this mainly through the Roads Authority, but when you have somebody acting for so many years – yes he can take decisions, but that permanent appointment for that particular position at the Roads Authority must be filled. I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Jankowski followed by Honourable Chief Riruako.

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to compliment our Minister of Transport. We have a very good road infrastructure in Namibia and I think it is one of the best in the SADC Region. However, personally I would like to see the safety of our people on the roads,

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON RIRUAKO

especially between Okahandja and Windhoek, and also between Windhoek and Rehoboth. We lost many lives on these roads. If possible, I would propose that we broaden them, because our people are commuting between these cities on a daily basis. That is my contribution and I support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Chief Riruako followed by Honourable Dr Kaiyamo.

HON RIRUAKO: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I was with the President and the Minister when we officially opened the road from Gobabis to Otjinene. However, people complained about the road from Otjinene, Okondjatu and Okamatapati.

While we were with the President and the Minister we said we wanted this road to serve the people in the Region, but now it goes the other way around the whole Region to Grootfontein, not, as was said, via Okondjatu, Okamatapati to Coblenz and all the way down to Grootfontein, it is going this way and the people are complaining about that.

This road is serving us and it is good for the community to use. It is now very difficult for them to accept the decisions of the Road Department to take this road away from them. That is the problem. Honourable Minister, we are back and steadfast to the first arrangement as you put it together. I think that is the way the public would like to ask whether the Minister could be sympathetic and build the road where it was – Otjinene-Okondjatu from Okondjatu all the way to Grootfontein, Okamatapati this side. That will take care of people in the Region.

We do not have any complaints on the Aminuis-Aranos road, your arrangement is so good and was accepted the way it is. I do not have anything to add to that, but I have to say thank you for that.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON DR KAIYAMO / HON NGHIMTINA

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I would also like to add my voice to those who praised the Minister for a job well done. Like Honourable Dingara said, Namibia is a star compared to the rest of Africa. It has kept its democracy.

My comment is on the Okalongo-Omuvelo-Gwakasamane border. The Ministry of Home Affairs has put up a building at that border and there is no road. That is why I appreciate the construction of this Okalongo-Omuvelo-Gwakasamane road.

Secondly, Omafo-Outapi, Honourable Minister come to our level and tell us that this bitumen standard is a tarred road, so that the people will understand. This bitumen is too bourgeois, you must come to our level. Does it mean that we will have a tarred road between Omafo and Outapi?

My last appreciation is the Outapi-Okahao road. Comrade that road is good, thank you. I support the Vote.

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

HONOURABLE MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT: Thank you, very much Honourable Members for your interest in the development of our roads. The roads belong to all of us.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON NGHIMTINA

Thank you *Honourable Shixwameni* for congratulating the Ministry. You spoke about the quality of work to be done, it is a point well taken and we are going to make sure that quality is not being compromised. We try to empower our Small and Medium Enterprises by giving them contracts sometimes, hoping that they will carry out qualitative work as required, because the majority of them have been trained by our institution, the Polytechnic. However, the mentality of the leaders must be changed so that they know that what they are doing is for the benefit and safety of the entire country including themselves.

For the maintenance of gravel roads we had graders all along, these graders go out every month or after every two months to level the roads.

The other issue is the Unange-Onyati gravel road; unfortunately I have not been there recently, but if it is deteriorating, I will definitely report it to the people concerned.

Honourable Muheua supports the Vote, which is very good, but you were asking if we were only talking about Swakopmund to Kamanjab, what about Omaruru? The Councilor came to see me about Omaruru and I informed him that everything goes through a process, which involves the Regional Road Board. Once it comes back we will obviously support and budget for it. It is not a problem. It is not forgotten, we know about it.

Professor Katjavivi, thank you very much for your support. Quality is the major issue we are talking about here and you also mentioned the culverts. We also had a problem with culverts in the North and we had to ask them to redo them. Most of the times the culverts are narrow and at other times they are put too much on the side of the *oshana* and not in the middle. In this case the water has unfortunately no reverse gear and the water will penetrate until the road is destroyed. However, I will send my engineers to go and see what is happening there. We also need to work hand in hand to establish whether it was done deliberately or the person was not qualified for the job.

The delay in the completion of this bridges, I do not know how far it is now, but we have timelines during which a project must be completed.

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON NGHIMTINA

They must inform us if there are any difficulties, in cases of floods and so on.

Although the rest of the country is suffering and complaining because of the lack of rain, it is a good year for the road construction companies because there is not too much water to delay their construction work. Professor, we will also send our people to have a look at the other roads you mentioned. What is most important is that the Councilor needs to submit the list of these roads to the Regional Road Board so that they are noted and proclaimed and once proclaimed, something will automatically be done.

Thank you, very much *Honourable Ueitele* for the support. Again the quality of the roads is the issue here. No roads to clinics: On Page 8 in my speech I mentioned the **Provision of Access Roads**: *“Apart from the infrastructure development, our Ministry is highly engaged in coming up with a viable Programme to construct access roads to connect community centers, health facilities, schools and agricultural centers situated along the tarred trunks or main roads.”* This is what we are saying, it is not forgotten whatsoever. However, we need assistance from the Regional Councilors so that we can do something.

We also need extra funding to do our work so that we have access roads. We have fully-fledged gravel roads, but not access roads. That will help us a lot, because we have young teachers who want to serve the Nation in the rural areas, but because they only have small cars, they cannot do that. The other thing we realized is that travelling on Nkurenkuru-Elundu road, you will find a lot of clinics, agricultural centers and schools, but there are no access road from the main road to get to these places. We have also taken note of the Olupandu/Omungwelume clinic.

Thank you for your comment, *Honourable Haingura* and we would also like to work closer with you. We are mostly working together with people from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture to create a win/win situation because without any roads you will not be able to dispatch materials to clinics or agricultural centers. We can also look into the issue of contractors assisting communities through their social

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON NGHIMTINA

responsibility programmes.

Women and Youth Empowerment: that is happening Honourable Haingura, we have trained a lot of women and the youth who are now running their own companies. They are the ones doing most of this work on the roads especially gravel roads, which is easier. It is easier, if somebody is willing and wants to do the job and add to their own CVs that they can do something in our country, they only need to do that so that we can recognize them.

Honourable Van Der Walt, thank you very much for the support and congratulations. Okahandja-Otjozondou road; as I said we did not receive a lot of rain this year, but when I visited Otjozondou last year, it was very bad. It was not accessible, maybe it is better this year. However, the other problem is overloading, manganese is a very heavy mineral and if you overload it, this gravel road will be destroyed quickly. We have a lot of companies coming up saying they will do A, B, C for testing their materials, but they are not coming forth and we want them to come, even if it is for one or two kilometers. We would like to test these heavy machines to make sure these materials are applicable to Namibia.

I agree that joint infrastructure development approach in the Region is very important, like in Europe, but we must keep in mind that we are still in Africa. However, SADC is doing very well; we have our own corridors from which everybody is benefitting. We will get there. Rome was not built in one day.

Honourable Manombe-Ncube, thank you very much for your support. I understand your concern and I would like to tell the House that we all have the potential to live with disabilities one day; we cannot talk about *them* but rather include everyone, because we could find ourselves in the same situation one day. Therefore, your point is well taken; we will set up a meeting between you and your people in order to work out a solution. As long as there is a political will, there is a way and we will do something about it.

Honourable Kavetuna, Otjinene-Gobabis road, Okondjatu and everything

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON NGHIMTINA

else coming up. Firstly, you said you were not aware of the Gobabis-Otjinene tarred road and when it was completed. This road was inaugurated by the President and it is 157 kilometers from Gobabis to Otjinene. That is a trunk road. Trunk road is a road meant for carrying goods to the market.

It was not meant to have diversions, because it would delay people from making money that is why it must be straightforward. Some people were reasoning that it should pass through some other places which are almost 120 kilometers away, as I said this will delay people from making money.

Honourable Dingara , thank you for your support, however, I am afraid to talk about other countries. Let us rather take our people from other Sectors as well, not only from the Road Sector, to other countries so they can appreciate what is there, come back and implement it here. We are most of the time complaining too much, which is democratically good, but go there and come back and tell us what you have seen.

Honourable Ulenga, thank you very much for your support. You said people on the ground are not enjoying, is it in terms of job creation or what? Because if you own a car you will enjoy the roads and if you are sick you will have quick access to health centers.

I also traveled the Rundu-Elundu road and like you said, there are a lot of activities there, taxis and minibuses. I can assure you everybody is happy. People are realizing Namibia is independent, because they used to suffer a lot in the past. These are good roads and we must keep it like that, they are ours.

Ambitious Programme – it is not my Programme, it is not Nghimtina's Programme it is *our* Programme. We want to develop this country together. The money we will use to construct these roads will be approved by the Members of Parliament. It is your roads. It is your money you are going to approve for our country.

The Oshakati-Omungwelu road used to be dusty like the one from Onethindi to Olukonda, if you have a big truck it would automatically be

16 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 24
HON NGHIMTINA

destroyed. However, last year the Deputy Prime Minister of our Republic complained about this and they have already started working on it, everything is going well. We will have a quality road this time not like the previous one. I already spoke about access roads, it is only a matter of the Regional Road Boards to come up with something for the Ministry to act upon.

Honourable Kapia, thank you very much for your support We are trying to see what we can do with the Groot Aub Bridge, if it goes well we will continue, otherwise we will improve on that.

Honourable Mutorwa, thank you very much for your support and all the positive comments. It is a real concern for someone to serve an institution in an acting capacity for three years. The Head Office once asked the Board in this regard, but I do not know why they are adamant not to fill the post. This is quite upsetting for the Minister as well.

Honourable Riruako, I think I already answered most of your questions.

The last one; *Honourable Kaiyamo*, thank you very much for your support. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister. Any Objection? Agreed to. Honourable Speaker, I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED

Progress reported and leave give to sit again.

16 April 2013

ADJOURNMENT

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. With that the job for the day is done, however, the struggle continues and for that the House shall reconvene, usual venue, usual time 14:30. To that end the House is adjourned.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 20:01 UNTIL 2013.04.17

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
17 APRIL 2013**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: The Business of the House shall now commence. Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Notice of Motions? Chief Whip.

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice, that the proceedings on Votes 03, 09, 11, 12, 14, 19 20 and 28 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration by 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any Objections. Agreed to. Please table the Motion. The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.1. – 2013]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage – *Appropriation Bill*.

17 April 2012

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

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

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

HON SPEAKER: Any Objection? Agreed to. I now call on the Chairperson of the Whole House Committee to take the Chair.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

The Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1. – 2013]. When progress was reported yesterday, Tuesday, 16 April 2013, Votes 01, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes 03, 11 and 28 had been introduced.

Vote 12 – “**GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE**”, **N\$531,317,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Minister you have the Floor.

MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:

Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Members of this august House, I rise to motivate Vote 12 of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare.

First of all, I would like to thank Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

Amadhila, the Minister of Finance and the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their teams for presenting a well-articulated National Budget for 2013/2014 focusing on the priorities of the country. The Ministry appreciates the Budget Allocation for this Financial Year and promise to make use of it effectively and efficiently.

During the tabling of this Budget by the Minister of Finance on 26 February 2013 in this august House under the theme “*Growing the Economy, Optimizing Development Outcomes, Jointly Doing More with Less*”, various Ministries and Government Institutions were reminded to prioritise their activities by delivering more with limited resources. The Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare would honour your request Honourable Minister to do more with the meager resources at our disposal.

This is indeed a people-centred and development oriented Budget Policy, which our Government has consistently and persistently pursued over the years. The Budget is also in line with the SWAPO-Party top priorities with a huge allocation to education, health and other critical Sectors of our economy. However, while appreciating the Budget allocated to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, my aspiration is that the allocation to this social Ministry be increased in the years to come, taking into account the central and important role of the Ministry; which is ensuring that women, men and children are taken care of.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members; Namibia has ratified the UN Convention on the rights of the child and the African Charter, both comprehensive instruments that sets out rights and defines universal principles and norms for the status of children. She is among the few countries providing child welfare grants to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC). I am proud to announce that 145,452 (One Hundred and Forty Five, Four Hundred and Fifty Two) children received grants during 2012/2013 Financial Year, which represent 94% of 155,000 orphans in the country.

Through income generating activities, the Ministry encourages community members to embark upon economically viable projects that will improve

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA**

their lives and that of their families and that are sustainable in the long run. In the preceding Financial Year 2012/13 the Ministry facilitated the transfer of an amount of N\$1,000,000.00 (One Million) to 13 Regional Councils, earmarked for funding such Income Generating Activities (IGAs) in the respective Regions. Out of the total, 88 (Eighty Eight) IGAs, 70 are owned by women. This is in line with the National Gender Policy which aims at *“creating a society in which women and men enjoys equal rights and equal access to basic services as well as opportunities to participate in and contribute towards political, social, economic and cultural development of Namibia”*.

Other additional achievements of the Ministry of Gender Equality during the past Financial Year includes the development of Namibian Standards of ECD centres, training of 122 kindergarten teachers, and 10 community kindergarten or ECD centres were constructed, while 18 have been renovated. Irrespective of the mentioned progress and achievements, the need to expand and improve ECD centres remains.

Furthermore, the Ministry commenced to provide subsidies to Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres that meet set standards. Currently, and for the first time, the Ministry is piloting the provision of ECD subsidies in the form of monthly allowances to ECD caregivers (kindergarten teachers) prioritising those serving the poor and marginalized communities. Over 150 ECD centres (two from each Constituency) have caregivers receiving monthly allowance from the Government and close to 300 caregivers are benefiting from this initiative. Following the set criteria, more caregivers will continue to be added on the subsidies system every Financial Year.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, let me now take this opportunity to take you through the Budget Allocation of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare for the 2013/2014 Financial Year and outline individual Programmes for which the funds will be utilised:

An amount of N\$531,317,000.00 (Five Hundred and Thirty One Million, Three Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Namibian Dollars) is allocated for the 2013/2014 Financial Year. Out of that amount,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

N\$500,333,000.00 (Five Hundred Million, Three Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand Namibian Dollars) is allocated for Operational Budget of the Ministry, while **N\$30,984,000.00 (Thirty Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty Four Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is allocated for Developmental Programmes.

Although the total allocated funds to our Ministry is not adequate to sustain gender equality Programmes and are inadequate to win the war against Gender-Based Violence, we are indebted to your all round support, especially from the Honourable Speaker, who tabled the Unopposed Motion on GBV in this august House. Honourable Members and the entire community we must overcome this dark page in our history. Women and girls are raped, maimed and murdered every day; and babies are being dumped; and this brutal killing of our women must be addressed by all members of the Namibian society.

This is a Constitutional and human right call, which require collected efforts by all of us; Government, communities, NGOs, and all stakeholders to devise mechanisms to address these uncalled for social behaviour, in order to protect the lives of the Namibian people as it is stipulated in Article 6 (8)(2)(b) and 10(2) of our Constitution.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members; the Ministry will use its Budget for the following Programmes:

PROGRAMME 1: Policy Supervision and Support Services

This Programme provides administration support services, ensure efficient and effective service delivery, Mainstream HIV and AIDS programmes, strengthen coordination and networking at all levels, promote ICT usage and access, improve staff competence, facilitate the development and acquisition of specialized skilled staff, Budget planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, with effect from 2013/2014, the Ministry is geared towards operationalising community empowerment centres in all 13 Regions, in order to promote women and

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA**

men economic empowerment. These centres will be used to train women and men on Income Generating Activities with special emphasis on women. To this effect, the construction of community empowerment centres has been completed at Aminus in Omaheke and Outapi in Omusati Regions.

Others have already been completed during the previous Financial Years such as Katima Mulilo, Rundu, Okongo, Ongwediva, Kalkrand, Opuwo, Tsintsabis, Tsunkwe and Gobabis of which renovations have been provided for in this Budget.

For the Regions such as Karas and Erongo, provision has been made in this Financial Year for the construction and feasibility study respectively.

For the last two Financial Years, the Ministry embarked upon the construction and renovation of the Juvenis Building (former Nictus Building), for office accommodation at Head Office in Windhoek. These projects will be completed by the end of September 2013.

Other capital development activities to be undertaken this Financial Year are the renovation of Regional and Constituency Offices of our Ministry, the construction of new Constituency Offices of the Ministry of Gender in Okatjali, Epembe; Omuthiya, Sesfontein, Stampriet; and the renovation of Children Homes and After School Centres in Windhoek and Homes of Safeties in Opuwo and Khorixas.

A total amount of **N\$93,038,000.00 (Ninety Three Million and Thirty Eight Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is allocated for this Programme inclusive of capital projects.

Programme 2. Care and Protection of Children

This Programme focus on the protection and rights of children as a legal and moral obligation which is provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, as was ratified by Namibia. This Programme offer support to poor and

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

vulnerable children in the form of child welfare and orphans grants just to meet their basic needs. However, the value of these grants is being depleted by inflation and there is a need to increase the monetary value of the grants from the current N\$200.00 per month, as well as to expand such support to other vulnerable children who are not yet covered such as impoverished, neglected and street children, which we think will address poverty among vulnerable groups in Namibia. Soon, the Ministry will provide this august House with an Atlas of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Namibia, and the Ministry will continue conducting studies into effective, viable, and sustainable mechanisms of supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children in our country.

An amount of **N\$377,658,000.00 (Three Hundred and Seventy Seven Million, Six Hundred and Fifty Eight Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is allocated to this Programme for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

PROGRAMME 3: Support Community and Early Childhood Development

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the purpose of this Programme is to empower disadvantaged urban and rural communities through mobilization of communities towards sustainable socio-economic development. Through this Programme, communities are supported financially and technically to start viable Income Generating Activities in an effort to create employment opportunities and improving livelihoods for rural and urban communities; especially women to increase their participation in the economy.

The Ministry would like to target the most vulnerable communities of Ovatwe and Ovatjimba in the Kunene Region, Khwe San in Western Caprivi, San community in Omusati, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Ohangwena and Kavango Regions.

This Programme also mobilizes and supports parents and community involvement in early childhood care, education and development issues for children from 0-4 years of age. Early childhood development lays the foundation for learning, and prepares children to become useful citizens

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

and to lead productive future lives. It is also worth mentioning that the Government is preparing to transfer the function of Early Childhood Development from the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to the Ministry of Education during the course of NDP4.

An amount of **N\$46,218,000.00 (Forty Six Million and Two Hundred and Eighteen Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is allocated for this Programme.

PROGRAMME 4: Promotion of Gender Mainstreaming and Empowerment of Women

The main purpose of this Programme is to improve the status of women and girls to that of men and boys by ensuring equal access to all the available resources for sustainable development.

This includes the promotion of positive cultural practices and beliefs, development of gender responsible Policies and Laws, gender research and gender mainstreaming at all levels.

Under this Programme, the Ministry will increase awareness at all level of structures, in order to influence the increasing of women representation in politics and decision making structures as per the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development; from the current 25% (2012) to 50% by 2015. The Ministry will ensure that gender responsive Laws and Policies are developed and existing ones are reviewed or amended for gender responsiveness. While the Ministry is continuing to implement the National Gender Policy and the National Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Plan of Action; it will strive to empower women economically through Income Generating Activities; and participating in all major economic Sectors.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members; there is a realization that when women are empowered economically; their empowerment translates into economic liberation which in turn lessens their dependency to men and vulnerability to Gender-Based Violence most especially from their men counterparts. Therefore, I am appealing to this august House to

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

revise all the necessary policies and legislation to ensure that women are participating in the country's economic activities such as public works and procurement, agriculture, mining, fisheries, commercial and communal farming through the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement and tourism; based on equal percentages.

Honourable Members, the Ministry will continue to strengthen Programmes and strategies to combat the evil of Gender-Based Violence which is badly affecting our society today. The Zero Tolerance Campaign against GBV, human trafficking, baby dumping and brutal killing should be every day's activity until the battle against Gender-Based Violence is won.

In addition; the Ministry will be conducting an in – depth research on Gender-Based Violence to identify the root causes of such phenomena that is devastating the image of women and girl child in Namibia.

An amount of N\$14,403,000.00 (Fourteen Million Four Hundred and Three Thousand Namibian Dollars) is allocated to this Programme.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members I will fail in my duty if I do not acknowledge the valuable support from our development partners. They continue to commit resources through various programs such as capacity building and technical support in legislation, policy development and monitoring and evaluation of our Programmes. In particular, I would like to thank UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN WOMEN and USAID through the President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Reliefs (PEPFAR), Global Fund and others. We are thankful for the substantial resources received from the Global Fund Programme to support caregivers in providing psychosocial support to vulnerable children.

I would equally like to thank my predecessor, Honourable Doreen Sioka, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare and the entire staff of the Ministry for their valuable contribution.

Indeed I am humbled; to thank His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr Hifikepunye Lukas Pohamba, for trusting me to

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

lead the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare and also for allowing me to be the voice of women in Namibia for gender equality.

In conclusion, the Ministry is aware of the serious situation of drought, which the Government is facing due to climate changes which might have impacted upon the allocation of funds to this Ministry from **N\$567,989,000.00 (Five Hundred and Sixty Seven Million, Nine Hundred, Eighty Nine Thousand Namibian Dollars)** in the 2012/2013 Financial Year, to **N\$531,317,000.00 (Five Hundred and Thirty One Million, Three Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Namibia Dollars)** this Financial Year, however, with the limited allocation at our disposal, we have opted to do more with less.

It is now my humble honour to request this august House to approve the Budget allocated to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare under Vote 12 amounting to **N\$531,317,000.00 (Five Hundred and Thirty One Million, Three Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Namibian Dollars)** for 2013/2014 Financial Year.

Stop Gender-Based Violence, Speak Out! I thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you.

Vote 20 – “**AGRICULTURE WATER AND FORESTRY**”, **N\$2,359,499,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Minister you have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

Comrade Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the National Assembly's Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, right from the word go, I thank the appointing authority, His Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba, for once again affording me the sixth opportunity, to present and motivate the financial allocations for

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

2013/2014 to the Agriculture, Water and Forestry Ministry. Sincere gratitude are also due to my Colleagues, Comrades and Friends, Honourable Minister of Finance, Honourable Director General of the National Planning Commission and all their Staff responsible for budget preparation, presentation and management; also for professional and dedicated work that you are doing for Namibia and all her people.

I am motivating VOTE 20 under the theme: **Prosperity and Growth through Hard Work**

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

Under the Fourth National Development Plan, three desired outcomes have been set for the Agriculture and Forestry, as well as Water and Sanitation sectors to be achieved by 2017. These are: **Desired Outcome 9** - Agriculture experiencing average real growth of 4% per annum; **Desired Outcome 4** - The proportion of severely poor individuals is expected to drop from 15.8% to below 10%; **Desired Outcome 5.3** in the NDP4 - Access to water for human consumption is expected to increase from 87% to 100% of the population and ensure that there is sufficient water reserves for industrialization. Obviously, these are high tall orders.

It is entrusted upon our Ministry to ensure without fail that these outcomes are realised by 2017. The Ministry believes that in order to contribute significantly to the attainment of our developmental goals and achieve the desired outcomes, we need to focus our efforts and resources on the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

following key strategic initiatives which are clearly summarized in the Ministry's 2012/2013 to 2016/2017 Strategic Plan. These strategic initiatives includes the expansion of the Green Scheme Programme; Improving Namibia's capacity to grow food and enhance food security; Increasing live-stock production; Providing subsidies to subsistence farmers; Promoting Conservation Agriculture; Improving access to markets for all livestock and livestock products North of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF); Reassessing the VCF and marketing regulations; Negotiating trade agreements with other countries for livestock products north of the VCF; Conducting research on drought-resistant crops and livestock; Utilizing drought-resistant crops and livestock; Ensuring water security for human consumption as well as ensuring water security for industrial development.

THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S (2012/13) BUDGET ALLOCATION

During the 2012/13 Financial Year, I motivated a total Budget of **N\$2,034,233,000.00** of this, a total of **N\$1,005,937,000.00** or **49.5%** was earmarked for the activities of recurrent nature (Operational Budget) and **N\$1,028,296,000.00** or **50.5%** represents the Development Budget.

Overall, **N\$711,931,000.00 (35 %)** was earmarked for the development of the Water Sector to supply water to rural communities and resettlement towns whereas a total amount of **N\$1,196,972,000.00 (59%)** was for the development of the Agricultural Sector, and **N\$125,330,000.00 (6%)** was allocated for the management and utilization of forestry resources.

MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2012/13 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Ministry has successfully completed the construction of the Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs at Rundu (Kavango Region) and Ongwediva (Oshana Region) and they were officially inaugurated by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia on the 1st and 4th of March 2013 respectively. The site for the construction of the fresh produce business hub in Windhoek has been secured, designing work has commenced and construction work shall begin during the current Financial Year. The construction of these facilities requires massive

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

investment which is above the Annual Budgetary Allocation of the Ministry; hence this project can only be implemented in phases. Such development is essential for the storage and marketing of fresh produce in order to overcome marketing constraints and the post harvest losses being experienced by the horticultural farmers.

The development of Sikondo Irrigation Project west of Rundu has been completed. Irrigation infrastructures, pump stations, supply lines, logistic centre and housing facilities were completed. In the meantime, production of Mahangu seed on 40 ha, Maize on 380 ha, Sunflower on 100 ha as well as Potatoes on 8 hectares has commenced. The expansion of Ndonga Linena, Etunda, Uvungu-vungu, Orange River, Musese and Mashare Irrigation Projects, to their full capacities, has commenced and is expected to be finalised during the 2013/14 Financial Year.

With regard to Livestock marketing in the country, there has been continued access to foreign markets for animals and animal products, which has contributed to the increased export earnings from Namibia's meat and meat products. These markets constitute mainly Norway, the European Union, Angola and South Africa. Namibia managed to gain market acceptance into Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan markets. Negotiations are underway to access new markets in the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China.

It is worth mentioning that there were no occurrences of animal diseases of significance affecting international trade during the year under review. However, the country continued to experience a number of notifiable diseases such as Anthrax, Brucellosis, African Swine Fever, Newcastle disease, Sheep Scab, Rabies, African Horse Sickness and Bovine Malignant Catarrh. Preventive mass vaccinations of livestock against major diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lung sickness were carried out during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. A total of 1,210,646 cattle in the Northern Communal Areas were vaccinated against lung sickness. This represents ninety three percent (93%) of the targeted cattle population which is earmarked for vaccination. In addition to that, over 90% of the cattle population in the Caprivi Region and in the Ndiyona and Mukwe constituencies of the Kavango Region were

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

vaccinated against Food and Mouth Disease. To be specific, in Caprivi Region and the two Constituencies, cattle were vaccinated three (3) and two (2) times per year respectively.

Significant progress has been made in the construction and upgrading of veterinary infrastructures countrywide. Construction of border offices and accommodation at Noordoewer, Ariamsvlei, Buitepos and Oshikango is nearly completed and work is expected to be finalised by the first quarter of the 2013/2014 Financial Year. Construction of the internal check-point at Mururani has been completed while the construction of the check-points at Namapan, Kamdescha and Palmfontein are due for completion by the end of April 2013. Construction of veterinary clinics at Otjimbingwe in Erongo Region, Engombe in Omusati Region and Onamishu in Oshikoto Region has been completed. In collaboration with the Millennium Challenge Account - Namibia, the construction of veterinary clinics are underway at Eenhana in Ohangwena Region, Outapi in Omusati Region, Omuthiya in Oshikoto region, Epukiro in Omaheke Region and Okakarara in Otjozondjupa Region.

The Central Veterinary Laboratory in Windhoek is accredited to the international standard organization ISO/IEC17025/2006 titled competency of testing and calibration laboratory since February 2013. At the moment, three sections namely; Serology, Toxicology and Molecular Biology analysis have been fully accredited. Tests and plans to expand the scope to all tests earmarked for export certification is ongoing.

I must inform this august House that the National Livestock Identification and Traceability System (NAMLITS) which is the backbone of animal disease surveillance has now been extended to cover the whole country. In the last two years the system was extended to cover the Northern Communal Areas where over 1.4 million cattle were ear-tagged and registered in a computerized database. This system enables Government to keep accurate records of animal disease surveillance, animal movements and vaccinations. It also allows for monitoring of breeding programs, population dynamics and future projections.

With regard to rural water supply, it is notable that the constructions of the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

water supply coverage projects for Katima Mulilo-Ngoma Water Supply Scheme, Katima Mulilo - Kongola Water Supply Scheme and Eiseb Water Supply Scheme have commenced. The siting and drilling of boreholes for the Displaced Communities in the Kavango Region has also commenced and the installations will take place during the current financial year.

The Ministry continued to implement the Community Based Management Project for supplying water to rural communities. To date, 87% of the rural communities have access to potable water countrywide. A total of 100 water points were rehabilitated, 150 boreholes were installed, 70 boreholes were drilled, 150 boreholes were cleaned and pump tested and 7 pipeline extensions were constructed as well as 500 water meters were installed during the 2012/13 Financial Year.

The sanitation coordination role is another responsibility entrusted with the Ministry. In this regard, a total of 482 households were provided with Sanitation facilities in Endola, Epembe Constituencies in the Ohangwena Region covering nine (9) villages. In Caprivi Region, constructions of the ablution blocks at five (5) combined schools have been completed. The identified schools were Singalamwe, Sikuvi, Linyanti, Masokotwane and Lisikili combined schools. This project created 158 short term employment opportunities during the construction phase. Sanitation and hygiene promotion and awareness sessions on the use and maintenance of such facilities were conducted for the beneficiaries at all schools and villages.

I am happy to inform this House that Government continues to expand the National Green Scheme Programme. To this end, the development of 14 hectares which is earmarked for vegetable production has commenced at Uvungu-Vungu.

The construction of the access road and on-land irrigation systems at Etunda Phases 7 & 8 covering 300 ha of irrigable land were completed while the construction of a cold storage facility is almost completed.

The Kalimbeza National Rice Project is being expanded and the rice processing plant and other essential implements have been procured.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

Construction of 14 houses, 12 offices and a warehouse is ongoing and is expected to be completed during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

The Ministry, as directed by Cabinet has constructed Strategic Food Reserve Facilities (silos), so far in the five (5) grain producing Regions to ensure food security and availability in cases+ of emergency. A new silo complex with a capacity of 3,000 tonnes was successfully completed at Tsandi in Omusati Region. The upgrading of the Katima Mulilo silo from 6,000 tonnes to 7,400 tonnes was completed in February 2013. The Namibian Agronomic Board in co-operation with the Ministry facilitated the purchase of maize and pearl millet grains from Farmers to fill up the National Strategic Food Reserves.

A total of 3,800 metric tonnes of maize were used for the San / Ovaherero feeding programme during the 2012/13 financial year. Currently, a grand total of 6,000 metric tonnes (of which 500 metric tonnes of millet and 5,500 metric tonnes of maize) is stored in all strategic food reserves and will be utilised as emergency food relief necessitated by the imminent drought and floods (part of Caprivi) faced by the country this year, 2013.

The Ministry continued with the implementation of the Dry Land Crop Production Programme which is now called the Rain Fed Crop Production Programme aimed at enhancing household food security and increased the country's capacity to grow food under rain fed conditions. During the 2012/2013 cropping season, farmers in crop growing Regions of Kunene North, Kavango, Caprivi, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Omusati, Oshana, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa continued to benefit from subsidised agricultural inputs.

A total of 2,844 farmers were supported with fertilizers, 8,243 farmers were supported with 107 tons of improved maize seeds, pearl millet, sorghum and cowpeas. Whereas 6,624 ha were ploughed benefiting 6,079 farmers. A total of 466 farmers benefited from weeding services, where-by, a total of 918 hectares were weeded.

In order to address the unemployment rate in the country, 75 contractual drivers were recruited and trained to provide subsidized ploughing

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

services using government tractors under the Rain Fed Crop Production Programme.

In order to improve agricultural productivity through technology transfer and adaptability, the Government embarked upon constructing the Agricultural Technology Centres. In this regard, a technology centre is being constructed at Rundu. This centre is nearing completion while the process of securing land for the construction of another technology centre at Ongwediva is underway.

In line with the decentralization process and bringing services closer to the people, the Ministry has constructed Agriculture Development Centres (ADCs). During the 2012/13 financial year a number of offices and houses were constructed at different ADCs throughout the country. These areas includes: Kamanjab ADC in the Kunene Region; Aroab ADC in Karas Region; Okaukamasheshe ADC in Oshana Region; King Kauluma ADC in the Oshikoto Region; Oshikunde ADC in the Ohangwena Region and the Onawa ADC in the Omusati Region.

The Ministry in collaboration with Millennium Challenge Account Namibia is implementing a project known as Support to Livestock Marketing Infrastructure for Communal Farmers. The objective of the project is to construct and upgrade auction facilities as well as train farmers to manage and maintain these livestock marketing facilities. During the 2012/2013 Financial Year the Ministry has constructed an auction facility at Oshifo in Omusati Region and another facility is being constructed at Opuwo in Kunene Region which is expected to be completed during this Financial Year.

Routine active and passive animal disease surveillance activities were conducted during the 2012/2013 financial year. This includes 6,131 farms inspected, community visits, ante- and post-mortem inspections at export abattoirs, supervision of livestock auctions, export certification and inspection of imported animals and animal products. These inspections yielded satisfactory results giving guarantees and assurances to our trading partners of the safety of Namibia's animals and animal products.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

With regard to crop research, the Ministry conducted nutritional values and chemical analysis on Mahangu cookies. The Government supported the private sector to initiate the production of Mahangu cookies. These cookies are found on the shelves of retail outlets.

Human resources development remains central to the successful execution of the Ministerial programmes and activities. It is for this reason that to-date the Ministry supported and coordinated the sponsorship of 101 staff members as well as young Namibians to pursue their studies in the specialised critical areas of the agricultural, water and Forestry Sectors. During the 2012/2013 Financial Year, 15 bursary holders completed their studies in Plant breeding and Seed Systems; Information Systems; International Water Law; Environmental Health; Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Engineering; Integrated Water Resources Management; Rangeland and Grassland Science and Veterinary.

Forest protection and conservation is critical for the fragile eco-system of Namibia. In this regard, the Ministry has acquired fire equipment and tools including fire beaters, high pressure pumps, fire bombs, drip torches, wind-driven knapsack sprayers and fire signboards to indicate fire-prone areas. The Ministry has engaged local people and communities to clear fire breaks (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas and a total of 5,623 km of firebreaks were cleared, creating 2,356 temporary jobs to 414 female and 1,942 men.

Tree planting is another crucial activity of the Ministry which is aimed at increasing forest cover. The Ministry has produced 181,745 seedlings which were given to communities at subsidised prices in order to encourage tree planting. More orchards were created and a total of 65 hectares have been planted with fruit trees during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. The already existing orchards started bearing fruits and about 1,800 kg of Mangoes and 2,000 kg of Guavas were harvested from those orchards.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, We have four

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

Programmes in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry namely:

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

Guided by these four Programmes, I would like to motivate the budget allocations for the year 2013/2014. In doing so, the Honourable Members are referred to the Technical Paper containing detailed information on the previous year's achievements and planned activities for the coming years.

I am motivating a total Budget of **N\$2,359,499,000.00** for the 2013/2014 Financial Year for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. This represents a 16% increase on last year's allocation. Of this total, **N\$1,027,884,000.00** or 43.5% is for the Operational Budget, while the remaining **N\$1,331,615,000.00** or 56.5% represents the Development Budget. Overall, **N\$ 1,127,192,000.00** or 48% is devoted to the development of the Water Sector and to supply water to rural communities and resettlement towns; **N\$740,879,000.00** or 31.4% is for the development of the Agriculture Sector, and **N\$122,286,000.00** or 5% is for the development of the Forestry Sector while **N\$369,142,000.00** or 15.6% has been allocated to the supervision and support services.

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

1. AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME

Agriculture is critical for both economic development and in meeting the country's regional and global commitments which include among others the Millennium Development Goal on poverty and hunger. The purpose of this Programme is to promote animal health and increase productivity and reducing poverty; to enhance agricultural production at national and household level in a sustainable manner; to encourage diversification; to support rural income generation projects and to promote Private Sector investment in agro-processing industries. In order for the Agriculture

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

Sector to achieve the desired outcomes set in the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4), an amount of **N\$740,879,000.00** is required for this Programme to carry out the following activities:

The Expansion of the Omuthiya silo from 500 metric tons to 3,000 metric tons silo will commence during the current Financial Year; meaning after the approval of this Budget. The Ministry will continue with construction of a cold storage facility and the construction of the office, houses and pump station as well as the expansion of the existing silos at Etunda from 2,000 metric tons to 4,000 metric tons. In addition to that, the Ministry will conduct an in-depth study with regard to the development of new irrigation projects at Liselo of approximately 2,000 hectares and Katima Farm approximately 250 hectares in Caprivi Region. More housing facilities will be developed at the Orange River Irrigation Project. The construction of the holding silos at Ndonga Linena and Sikondo irrigation projects with the capacity of 2,000 tonnes each will commence during the 2013/2014 Financial Year. The installation of the 400 ha and 350 irrigation system, Bulk water supply and pump station for Ndonga Linena Phase II and Mashare Phase II respectively will commence during this Financial Year. Construction of irrigation and farm infrastructures for the dairy component to accommodate 500 cows in milk will continue at Uvungu-vungu Dairy Farm covering 25 ha while 250 ha will be used for fodder production in the future. I wish we have done this already considering the drought, but we will be there.

The Ministry will start with the construction of the Fresh Produce Hub in Windhoek and continue with the construction of the second phases of the Fresh Produce Business Hubs in Rundu and Ongwediva in order to stimulate domestic horticultural production. The construction of these facilities requires massive investment which is above the annual budgetary allocation, hence the project is being implemented in phases.

In order to increase the size of the subsidized hectares for subsistence farmers from the current 3 hectares particularly for

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

crop farmers in the crop producing communal areas, the Ministry will procure more seeds and fertilisers for the Rain Fed Crop Production Programme. The Ministry will also work out a Programme whereby organic fertilizer e.g. kraal manure, will be procured by the Ministry from farmers, in addition to the imported and most expensive non-organic fertilizers.

The Ministry has embarked upon a program to upgrade several abattoirs in the northern Regions of Namibia with the aim to develop and improve the marketing and processing facilities in the Northern Communal Areas in line with the NDP4 goals. Currently, the abattoirs in Eenhana and Outapi are being upgraded and will be operational in the 3rd quarter of 2013/2014 Financial Year. The documentation and drawings for the meat processing and cold storage facilities at Ongwediva as well as meat processing, abattoir, and cold storage facilities at Rundu are finalized and ready to go out on a construction tender. Plans for the Katima Mulilo cold storage and meat processing facility are in progress and will be finalized once the funds are available. The land on which the premises will be built has been identified and we are in discussion with the Local Authority of Katima Mulilo to finalise that aspect.

The Ministry will continue with the construction of the Rundu Technology Centre and the work to construct the Ongwediva Technology Centre shall start within the course of this year.

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

The construction of various veterinary infrastructures will continue

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

in this Financial Year. The tenders for the construction of facilities at checkpoints of Okaukuejo, Werda, Rooidag and for border control offices at Oronditi, Swartbooidrift and Katwitwi are already out and construction is due to start in the first quarter of 2013/2014 Financial Year. Veterinary clinics at Tses, Okalongo, Ruacana, Okahao, Omundaungilo, Omauni and a State Veterinary Office and laboratory at Ondangwa are ready for tendering. The construction of the livestock traceability office in Windhoek will commence during the 2013/2014 Financial Year. It is expected that a total of 63 new veterinary clinics, 16 border posts, and 11 check points will be constructed at the end of the Programme. The upgrading of central veterinary laboratory will be completed at the end of April 2013 here in Windhoek while the land to build a research laboratory at Eenhana has been identified and is already fenced off for further development.

2. WATER PROGRAMME

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

The Ministry is charged with the responsibility of implementing the National Water Policy and the new water legislation for the management of all water resources. It also coordinates, manages and monitors all developments in the Water Sector. The Ministry will continue with the development of regulations, procedures and practices to control the equitable allocation and the abstraction of water, water quality and other regulatory functions in order to ensure equitable and reasonable access to water from the shared perennial border rivers.

Government continues to engage with the neighbouring countries in

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

bilateral, multilateral, regional and international co-operation in the sharing of water from international border rivers through the various river basin commissions for the Okavango, Kunene and Orange Rivers.

Allow me to also inform this August House that negotiations between Permanent Water Commission (PWC) and Orange - Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) are ongoing to look at the viability of constructing a re-regulating dam on the Lower Orange River for irrigation, domestic and livestock consumption and the share of water that each basin State should be entitled to on an annual basis. Indications are that the full feasibility study of the dam at the Lower Orange River will be undertaken during the 2013/2014 Financial Year. Other negotiations are also ongoing on the viability of developing a hydropower on the Kunene River along the common border with Angola, possibly at one of the sites identified and the Kunene Transboundary Water project supplying north central areas of Namibia with water.

In a joint project with the Department of Water Affairs in South Africa, two low-flow weir structure and automatic measurement systems are being constructed and installed in the Lower Orange River common border area. The two gauging structures are positioned where the river starts to be the border between Namibia and South Africa and at Sendelingsdrift downstream of the confluence with the Fish River, which is representative for the Ramsar River Mouth site. The gauging systems will measure accurately and transmit in real-time the flows in the Lower Orange River in order to support the ecology of the river and river mouth for environmental flows.

A project on quantification of ground water resources in Namibia that started in 2011 will continue in the 2013/2014 Financial Year. This project was designed to quantify the abstractable groundwater resource potential within the entire country. The project includes: determining the quantification of storage; determining the planning potential of available resources, understanding and

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

quantifying the recharge and ground/surface water interaction, defining and using a more systematic classification of aquifers, quantifying groundwater use and making necessary amendments to the Hydro-geological Map of Namibia. A consortium is busy with the quantification of groundwater in Namibia. This is an ongoing project and as the results become available, the information will be consolidated and will be made available to the Division of Geohydrology.

Another project of importance that will be implemented this year is the Windhoek Artificial Recharge which is a project that is designed to secure the water supply to the Central Areas of Namibia. The project focuses on the storage of purified water in the Windhoek Aquifer, in times of abundance. This will then be a storage safeguard in times of drought and water shortages. An amount of N\$5 million has been made available to the City of Windhoek for the drilling of 12 new injections and monitoring boreholes. The new deep boreholes will be drilled for the Windhoek Aquifer to serve as injection points for the recharge and the water transfer infrastructure will be upgraded to make provision for the extra load.

Recharge and Quantification of the Stampriet Artesian Aquifer which is the first transboundary ground water project between Botswana, South Africa and Namibia has been started. Funding from SAD C is being sought for the transboundary component. Additional 6 monitoring boreholes will be drilled for water level monitoring points and pumping tests in 2013/2014 Financial Year.

Collection of data for Natural Resources Accounts to update water accounts were carried out in Erongo and Otjozondjupa Region. The Walvis Bay Salt Refinery technical report is 30% complete. The report was put on hold due to environmental Impact Assessment for Green Scheme projects in Kavango and Caprivi. The Erongo Desalination Plant technical report was completed. Collection of Natural Resource Accounting information for water project will still continue countrywide and writing of water

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

resource accounts reports for different municipalities and mines will be carried out during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

Honourable Members, in our quest to ensure water security for the country, a number of new water supply pipeline projects have been initiated and are being developed. Feasibility studies for four (4) projects: Iitapa-Okeeholongo Water Supply Project and Ruacana South Water Supply Project in Omusati Region, Oshivelo-King Kauluma to Omutsegwonime Water Supply Project in Oshikoto Region as well as Ondangwa-Omuntele Water Supply Pipeline Extension in Oshana Region has commenced. This will be followed by planning, design reports and then the construction of water supply infrastructure.

The tender for the construction of the Neckartal Dam in the Karas Region has been awarded to Messrs Salini Costruttori S.p.A by the Tender Board of Namibia and I was in Keetmanshoop on the 28th of March to convey that information which was received by the community enthusiastically and positively. This project is of national importance and is critical for the upliftment of the Karas Region and the livelihood of the people in Karas Region in particular and the Namibian people in general. The Ministry therefore, is moving forward with the implementation of the project.

By way of implementing the Sanitation Strategy, the Ministry will ensure that Regional Water and Sanitation forums are established in nine Regions and that Regional Water and Sanitation meetings are convened on a quarterly basis. Through community education and participation in sanitation and hygiene practices, health awareness will be created. This will lead to an increase in coverage and use of improved sanitation facilities in both urban and rural areas.

• **FORESTRY PROGRAMME**

The purpose of this Programme is to develop and manage the forestry

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

resources to enhance socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability in order to ensure that forestry activities are undertaken in different areas throughout the country, the Ministry requests an amount of **N\$122,286,000.00** for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

The Ministry will continue with the implementation of de-bushing to reduce the extent of bush encroachment on State-Owned land, increase the land's carrying capacity of the farming land and improve livestock production in the country. To date, a total of 898 hectares have been cleared in Government owned farms as well as the resettlement farm for the San community. As a result, 405 jobs have been created, benefiting 352 men and 53 women. Preparations are underway to extend the de-bushing activities to privately owned lands on subsidised costs. The Ministry will continue to promote the utilization of the bush removed and create the much needed jobs for Namibians.

The Ministry will also continue to implement the Forest protection and conservation project. Through this Programme, the Ministry will acquire fire equipment and tools including fire beaters, high pressure pumps, fire bombs, drip torches, wind-driven knapsack sprayers and fire signboards to indicate fire-prone areas. Local people will be engaged to clear fire break (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas.

In an effort to expand tree planting and orchards development throughout the country, the Ministry plans to produce 200,000 seedlings from ministerial nurseries which will be used to plant 100 ha of orchards.

• **SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

The purpose of this Programme is to facilitate the policy formulation leading to the creation of legal framework for the Ministry; the implementation of policies; the promotion of agricultural and agro-industrial development; the mobilization of technical and financial resources; the development and maintenance of an agricultural information system; the administration of the Co-operative Act; and the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

promotion of marketing of agricultural products. It also provides administrative support to the Programmes and to ensure proper financial management, optimal deployment of resources the acquisition and development of physical infrastructures, Information Communication Technology services, transport and communication, consumables, safety and wellness, utilities, legal costs, assets management and protection, public relations, publications, capacity building and staff development. It also caters for emergency relief assistance in the Agricultural Sector. In order to implement this activities, an amount of **N\$369,142,000.00** is required.

The Ministry will continue to provide support to cooperatives in the country. A total of ninety two (92) cooperatives have been registered in Namibia. Of these, seven (7) are fully registered and eighty five (85) are provisionally registered. The Ministry will also continue with the provision of business development services for the development of cooperatives. These services are done in the form of annual monitoring visits to cooperatives and training through the Co-operative College. The Cooperative Policy is in the process of being reviewed and once the new Policy is approved the cooperative act will be amended.

Other activities under the Programme includes agro-production feasibility studies, market research and development, as well as ensuring Namibia's compliance to the agricultural trade regulations, my neighbor at the back will expand more when he motivates the Vote of Trade and Industry, and also membership contributions to the agricultural related organisations and institutions to which Namibia is a member such as Food Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and International Cooperative Alliance (ICA).

DROUGHT RELIEF MEASURES

Allow me to inform this House that the country received extremely below average rainfalls except the extreme northeast where closer to average levels was attained. Our Head of State, both in his State of the Nation

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

Address and and also at a different public platform have already expressed the government position on this matter, suffice to say that the Ministry of Agriculture together with other Ministries through the coordination of the Office of the Prime Minister is doing that it can to respond to the challenges emanating from drought. The drought is more severe in the southern parts of the country where rainy season has hardly started. This has negatively affected the agricultural production. Provisional crop production estimates indicated that, rain-fed crop production is expecting below average harvest. Part of the poor crop harvest expected is also due to the outbreak of Army worms, in the north central regions with Oshana and Omusati Regions being the most affected. Aggregate coarse grains (maize, pearl millet, wheat and sorghum) production is estimated at 95,900 metric tons, reflecting a decrease of 25% below average and 42% lower than last seasons' harvest.

On the livestock production, poor grazing conditions were reported countrywide, with the exception of Caprivi and Kavango regions where relatively good grazing conditions were reported. The situation is expected to worsen if no significant rainfall is received for the remainder of the season. Moreover, water for livestock is also becoming stingily available as most catchments are drying up. Livestock condition is fair in most areas, but expected to deteriorate with poor grazing. Some farmers are reported to have lost some of their livestock to poor grazing conditions and the situation is more serious in Omaheke and Kunene Regions.

Given this information, there is a clear indication that the country is facing serious drought situation. Government is committed to address both flood and drought conditions that are threatening the lives of the Namibian people. The Head of State clearly indicated that no one should die of hunger in this country. In order to ensure that this does not happen, the Ministry together with the Office of the Prime Minister and other stakeholders have made important recommendations that need to be taken into consideration in order to address the situation. These are:

- Conducting a Rapid assessment in the drought affected regions to establish the number of people affected;

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

- Provision of food relief to the affected population;
- Supplying water through water tankers to affected communities;
- Reactivating and ensure speedy implementation of the livestock marketing incentives scheme;
- Relaxation of the tender procedures for the drilling of emergency boreholes and supply diesel to borehole schemes;
- Monitoring of the health and nutritional situation of the drought affected populations;
- Availing operational funds to the recurrent drought and flood administration.

Drought mitigation measures specifically aimed at the marketing of livestock and protection of grazing is being developed by the Ministry in consultation with Farmers' Unions, abattoirs, Meat Board and other stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, last but not least, may I finally inform the House that the Fourth National Development Plan process calls for a collective approach where both Private and Public Sectors are expected to work together and develop Programmes and projects that are geared toward achieving the NDP4 desired outcomes. In this regard, the Ministry organised a Five Days Sectoral Planning Workshop which was held during the first week of March 2013 in Walvis Bay where stakeholders in the Agriculture, Water and Forestry Sectors came together to develop the Five Years Sectoral Execution Plans which will serve as a roadmap to implement our Programmes and projects over the NDP4 period. We would, therefore, like to use this platform to send our gratitude to the State-Owned Enterprises, the Agricultural Unions, the Farmers Associations that we have invited to participate there, it was quite

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 20
HON MUTORWA

a very constructive session. This is the way to go.

What I have presented to the House is a summary of achievements for 2012/2013 and the plans for the 2013/2014 Financial Years. I, therefore, advise the Honourable Members to refer to the Technical paper for detailed information on the Ministry's Programmes, projects and activities.

I thank the local and international cooperating partners, farmers, the Private Sector, including Non-Governmental Organisations and Government agencies, for their continued support and confidence to invest in the Agriculture, Water and Forestry sectors in Namibia. We must continue to strengthen these relationships to achieve overall development goals of our Sectors for the benefit of all the citizens and residents of Namibia including visitors. It is the commitment of the Ministry to ensure that the Sector contributes optimally to economic growth and that Namibia is able to feed itself and export the surplus to other Nations and Countries.

With this motivation, I now call upon the House, through you Comrade Deputy Speaker, to discuss, consider and approve the Budget for Vote 20 for the 2013/2014 Financial Year, for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. I thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
The Whole House Committee adjourns for tea break.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 15:45

HOUSE RESUMES AT 16:20

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: The Whole House Committee is called to order.

Vote 19 – “**TRADE AND INDUSTRY**”, **N\$749,437,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry.

HON MIISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of this August House, it is with great honour for me to present to this August House, Vote19 for the Ministry of Trade & Industry for the 2013/2014 Financial Year, for the first time.

Before I address the Budget Allocation for Vote19, permit me to firstly to express my gratitude to His Excellency the President for the trust that he has bestowed on me in appointing me to lead the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Secondly, I wish to joint others in congratulating the Minister of Finance and the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their teams for a well thought and pro-development Budget. I also wish to thank them for the budgetary allocations to this Ministry, for which I am seeking the support of this August House today.

Thirdly and as a prelude to our Budget presentation, I am proud to inform this August House that a Report by the National Planning Commission on the implementation of capital projects under TIPEEG has ranked the Ministry of Trade and Industry as the *Star Performer* in terms of timely implementation of our capital projects, work quality and especially jobs created. Well done to TEAM MTI under the leadership of the now Right Hon Prime Minister, Comrade Hage Geingob.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, in my view, the Namibian economy, in its present form, is a de facto colonial economy.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

Our reliance on the primary Sector and exports of raw materials does not only make us vulnerable to external shocks, but creates jobs and wealth in those economies where we are exporting our raw materials to, at our peril of course. As such, we cannot expect to achieve the required levels of sustained economic growth and development and bring about prosperity for our people by continuing business as usual – that is remaining as an exporter of raw materials and importer of consumer goods and price-takers in both cases.

From the above, it is logical that we need to redouble our efforts and investments towards diversifying and transforming the content and structure of our economy. We particularly need to increase our support to the productive or economic Sectors of our economy in order to boost their industrial base, capacity, output and competitiveness. Our rich resource endowment provides a good basis for us to attract investments and to develop industries that will process and add the highest possible value to such resources before they are exported. This will also create greater employment and economic opportunities for our people. The Services Sector especially tourism as well as the Transport and Logistics Sector also offer great investment opportunities and prospects for further development and employment creation.

Beside the potential benefits at home, if we develop a robust productive capacity we will be in a position to not only produce consumer and manufactured goods for our own use, but also to export such to other countries at competitive prices and quality. This will in turn enable us to maximize and take full advantage of the opportunities and benefits that free trade and trade arrangements to which Namibia is member offer.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, in line with the above and as amplified by His Excellency the President in his recent State of the Nation Address, the Ministry of Trade and Industry is championing the “***Growth at Home***” Strategy whose emphasis is on the diversification of our economy towards a higher level and contribution of local value addition and manufacturing and enhanced local supply-side capacity as well as better co-ordination and collaboration between all role players in

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

the economy, including Public-Private Dialogue. In line with Vision 2030 and NDP4 goals, our ultimate focus is to ensure that the impact of our work is visible through tangible improvements in terms of the capacity of our local industries to produce efficiently and competitively as well as in the socio-economic welfare of the citizens of our country through employment and business opportunities.

On the basis of our *Growth at Home* strategy and in performing the leading role that has been assigned to it to lead the national drive on expanding Manufacturing under NDP 4, the Ministry of Trade and Industry will use the Budget Allocation for the 2013/2014 Financial Year to foster a climate and conditions that are conducive for the accelerated development and expansion of the Trade and Industry Sectors in the country.

In all this, we recognize the role of the Private Sector as an indispensable partner to the Government.

The role of the Government to design and implement effective policies and industrial development strategies will be strengthened if the Government maintains ongoing contacts and communications with the private sector. Indeed, I agree with Dani Rodrik (2004), who in his Paper entitled “*Industrial Policy for the Twenty-first Century*” maintaining communication with the Private Sector said; “*allow public officials to have the good information base on business activities, without which sound decision-making would be impossible.*” Therefore, a proper dialogue with our Private Sector is pivotal to our success.

In this connection, we have established formal channels of communications with and even provide direct financial support to industry bodies such as NCCI, the Namibia Trade Forum, the Namibia Manufacturers Association, Team Namibia and the Namibia Estate Agents Board, and we have also started consultations with the various Sectors in the economy. That consultative process will continue.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, let me now

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

reflect on the details of the budgetary allocations to Vote 19 for the 2013/2014 Fiscal Year.

OVERALL ALLOCATION

The total Budget Allocation to the Ministry of Trade and Industry for the Financial Year 2013/2014 amounts to **Seven Hundred and Forty Nine Million, Four Hundred and Thirty Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$749,437,000.00)**. This represents an increase of **Twenty One Million, Five Hundred and Seventy Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$21,577,000.00)** or 2.97% from the 2012/2013 allocation.

The Ministry's allocation consists of **Two Hundred and Eight Seven Million, One Hundred and Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$287,107,000.00)** for the Operational Budget and **Four Hundred and Sixty Two Million, Three Hundred and Thirty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$462,330,000.00)** for the Development Budget. Like in Agriculture, we have a biased towards the Development Budget.

In line with the Programme budgeting approach that has been adopted and underwhich we are discussing budgetary allocation, the Trade and Industry Ministry has grouped its activities under four (4) main Programmes, namely:

1. Investment Promotion
2. Trade Promotion
3. Industrial and Business Development, and
4. Supervision and Support Services

The focus of our Programmes indicated above and the specific allocations thereto are as follows:

1. INVESTMENT PROMOTION PROGRAMME

An amount of **Fifty One Million Six Hundred and Eighty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$51,680,000.00)** has been allocated to this

programme.

Industrial and economic development is driven by investment, and the purpose of this Programme is, therefore, to create and foster appropriate conditions for new and expansion of existing domestic and foreign direct investment in Namibia.

The activities under this Programme, and which will be pursued in the current Fiscal Year include:

- The finalisation of the new Investment Law, which will replace the existing *Foreign Investment Act*, 1990, whose provisions have been found to be outdated and is thus no longer serving as an effective tool for attracting investments. Among others, the new Law provides for the role of the State, the reservation of certain categories of business and Sectors for domestic investors, and the establishment of an integrated investor service (one-stop-shop) centre;
- The revision of current incentives to ensure their continued relevance as an effective tool for attracting the required quantity and quality of investments especially into the priority Sectors of Manufacturing, Agro-processing, Transport and Logistics and Tourism;
- Marketing and ensuring Namibia's competitiveness as a stable and profitable investment and business location;
- Organisation and facilitation of inward and outward investment missions as well as business linkages and partnerships;
- Investigations and promotion of new investment opportunities especially through initiatives (Spatial Development Initiatives) that seek to create a link between transport infrastructure (such as ports, highways and railways) and business opportunities along such routes for optimal investment benefits for the economy;

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

- Development of closer exchanges and partnerships between the Ministry and the Business Sector through formal business associations such as the NCCI.

2. TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMME

An amount of **One Hundred and Ninety Six Million Seven Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 196,749, 000.00)** has been allocated to this Programme, which relates to the Ministry's mandate of promoting Commerce (Internal or Domestic Trade) and International Trade.

2.1. International Trade

The main focus of the International Trade Promotion function of the Ministry is to create conditions that will boost exports of Namibian goods and services as well as the capacity of Namibian firms to supply and export goods at a competitive level.

The main focus of our activities in this Financial Year are:

- To put in place measures to counter or minimise the negative effects of dumping and related unfair trade practices on local producers, industries and consumers, by among others establishing the Namibia International Trade Management Commission (Namibia Board of Trade), which will be responsible for investigating cases of dumping and administering trade remedies and Infant Industry Protection measures;
- Support to regional, continental and multilateral economic integration, trade development and facilitation processes and arrangements through SACU, SADC, the AU and the WTO, while ensuring that our policy space to implement measures aimed at growing our industrial base and to safeguard our industries is not eroded through such regional and multilateral arrangements, this is a rather important aspect;
- Support to local firms especially exporters, to secure markets for their

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

products and to improve the branding and quality of their products to adequately meet international market standards;

- Consolidation of existing markets, while at the same time vigorously pursuing new market opportunities for Namibian products through, among others, negotiating preferential market access arrangements (EPA and Tripartite Free Trade Areas) and construction of warehousing and trade centres in selected countries in the region (Angola, DRC and Republic of Congo) with the aim of facilitating entry and sale of Namibian products in those regional markets; and
- Pursue measures, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, to ease trade across borders, such as the introduction and implementation of the One-Stop-Border-Post and Single Window Facility.

2.2 Domestic Trade (Commerce)

The role of the Ministry in the area of Domestic Trade or Commerce is to develop and put in place an appropriate legal, regulatory and institutional framework for the registration of businesses and intellectual property rights (IPR); enforcement of IPR protection, quality assurance standards; consumer protection; and enhancement of market competition.

The main focus of our activities in this financial year in the area of Commerce is on:

- Improving and expanding Intellectual Property (IP) and Business Registration infrastructure and services to the public, through among others the establishment of the Namibia Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA), which body will take over and perform all the business and IPR registration functions on behalf of the Ministry;
- The drafting and tabling of a Policy and Bill on Consumer Protection, which we are working on in partnership with the Law Reform and Development Commission;

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

- Financial support to strengthen the capacity of the Namibian Competition Commission (NaCC) in rooting out any anti-competitive practices, collusion and abuse of market dominance;
- Financial support to strengthen the capacity of the Namibia Standards Institution (NSI) to ensure compliance to national and international standards, proper labeling and packaging of products produced, imported and sold in the local market. This is particularly crucial in light of reports about deceptive labeling of meat products in Europe and the region (SACU).

3. INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

An amount of **Four Hundred and Thirty Nine Million, Six Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$439,649,000.00)** has been allocated to this Programme.

This Programme consists of two main components, namely Industrial Planning & Development and Small Business Development

3.1 Industrial Planning and Development

The Industrial Development function engenders the Ministry to plan and spearhead the implementation of industrial development policy strategies and initiatives that are aimed at boosting local production, exports and employment creation capacity.

The focus of the Ministry in this regard is to boost the local industrial base and supply-side capacity through various interventions, such as:

- The development of the Strategy for the implementation of the Industrial Policy that was passed by Parliament in the last quarter of last year;
- The role of State in identifying, establishing and incubating new viable and strategic industries through State-Owned Enterprises in

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

partnership with and weaning off such ventures to the Private Sector;

- Direct support to local industries and firms to upgrade their production capacity, efficiency, output and competitiveness, through the Industry Upgrading and Modernization Program (IUMP);
- Carrying out research into the potential and new opportunities for industrial development and expansion in the country, with a special focus on value chains and discovery of new product lines;
- Funding to the Namibia Development Corporation (NDC) to sustain its current operations and infrastructure most of which are in dire need of urgent upgrading and maintenance; and
- The establishment of a single and appropriately capacitated national industrial development and promotion agency, combining the mandates currently assigned to the Namibia Development Corporation and the Offshore Development Company.

3.2 Small Business Development

The Ministry plays a leading role in creating an enabling environment for the growth and expansion of Small, Micro and Medium enterprises (SMME) Sector.

The budgetary allocation to this Activity will enable the Ministry to increase its support to the Small and Medium Scale Industry Sector, as a viable vehicle for sustainable economic development, employment and wealth creation, poverty reduction and empowerment.

Our support is in the form of:

- Acquisition and servicing of land and the construction and provision of affordable business premises to start – up businesses especially in the rural areas;
- The acquisition and provision of productive equipment and

17 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

- technology;
- Feasibility studies, business plans, and mentoring services;
- Capitalisation of the SME Bank to boost the capital base of the newly established SME Bank and thus enable the Bank to effectively perform its SME lending function and to expand its operations outside Windhoek;
- Create synergies between small scale local producers and large retailers in order to create and enhance opportunities for locally made goods to find trading space in the domestic market; and
- Support to industry associations and SME service providers, with a view to ensure coordinated interventions and impact on the Sector as well as improved capacity of business service providers.

4. SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

This refers to the oversight roles of the Offices of the Minister and the Accounting Officer as well as the support functions of financial and personnel management, strategic planning and coordination, and general administration. Such oversight and support services are there to ensure the overall performance and accountability of the Ministry and that the Ministry and its agencies have the requisite resources to perform their core functions.

An amount of **Sixty One Million, Three Hundred and Fifty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$61,359,000.00)** has been allocated to this Programme.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, in conclusion, let me end my Address with a quote from Ramsay MacDonald, one of the Co-founder of the British Labour Party, which reads as follows:

"But I think it will be your happiness, as it is mine, to go on convinced that the great foundations are being well laid, that the ennobling plan is

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

being conceived, and that by skilled craftsmen, confident in each other's goodwill and sincerity, the temple will rise and rise and rise until at last it

is complete, and the genius of humanity will find within it an appropriate resting place".

With these words, I now hereby Move and request the House to consider and approve the sum of **N\$749,437,000.00** for the current and Development Budgets of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Vote 19. I thank you.

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

Vote 14 – **“LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE”**, **N\$1,549,304,000.00** put for Introduction. The Floor is yours, Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:
Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, it is my distinct honour and privilege to rise in this august House in order to motivate the budgetary allocations to Vote 14, of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, for the 2013/14 Financial Year.

Before I commence with my Motivation, let me take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia for appointing this *baby* to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare four months ago, I am four months old in this Ministry. I would like to assure his Excellency that I am ready to receive any assignment or instructions from him and I will do my best. In the same vein, allow me to congratulate my sister, the Honourable Minister of Finance, the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their technical staff members for coming up with this Budget. It is indeed, a people-centered and developmental oriented Budget, the very principle on which the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

SWAPO Government's collective agenda of national building has been premised on over the years.

Our country is faced with immense challenges of relatively high unemployment, inadequate living wages and intolerable conditions of employment in some Sectors of our national economy. Moreover wide spread vulnerability amongst the elderly and persons with disabilities, particularly in rural areas, is another national challenge that our Nation is still grappling with. Given these precarious circumstances facing our people, the role of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare has never before been more vital to the socio-economic development of our Nation.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the mandate of the Ministry is to provide labour, employment and social welfare services as per the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia.

This critical task requires that the Ministry must ensure appropriate legal framework, creates conducive environment, and guarantees interventional assistance that achieves the goal of decent employment for our people.

Ranking amongst the top priorities of the State, is the commitment to ensuring that our people obtain decent and meaningful employment and attain skills for self-employment. This is a fundamental task entrusted with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Needless to say, the Ministry is at the same time tasked to provide social protection to the vulnerable and marginalized segment of our society.

To achieve the above objectives, the Ministry is thus responsible for the implementation of the following Acts:

- *Labour Act*, 2007 (Act 11 of 2007);
- *Affirmative Action(Employment) Act*, 1998 (Act 29 of 1998);
- *National Pension Act*, 1992 (Act 10 of 1992);

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

- *Social Security Act*, 1994 (Act 34 of 1994);
- *Employee's Compensation Act*, 1941 (Act 30 of 1941);
- *Employment Services Act*, 2011 (Act 8 of 2011);

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, as it is customary, allow me to highlight some of the developmental undertakings that were achieved during the previous Financial Year.

Capital Projects

In line with the Government decentralization policy, the Ministry continued to expand and bring Government services closer to the people. This is done by implementing Developmental Projects. Thus construction of Labour Offices at Rehoboth, Enhana and Walvis Bay, has been completed during the last Financial Year. The Rehoboth and Enhana Offices were officially inaugurated last year, while the Walvis Bay Labour Office will be inaugurated on 22 April 2013. Ondangwa Labour Office was also completed two weeks ago and preparations are underway for its inauguration in the immediate future.

Labour Market Services

Under this Programme, the Namibia Labour Force Survey 2012, which was led by the Namibia Statistic Agency (NSA), was completed in November 2012. The report and the results of the survey have been made public this month.

The Ministry has also drafted Employment Guidelines that outlines specifications to be adhered to by companies and individuals wishing to secure state contracts for goods and services.

The *Employment Service Act* was partly implemented in August last year to regulate employment agencies in the country. The Act aims at strengthening the Ministry's capacity to render services to the labour

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

market by establishing an Advisory Employment Services Committee and an Employment Services Bureau. However the regulations need to be finalised, to fully operationalise the Act. As per the requirement of the of *Employment Services Act*, the Ministry has introduced a comprehensive computer system known as the Integrated Employment Information System (IEIS). The system is hosted at the Office of the Prime Minister. The first phase, which is the installation of the system has been completed and was piloted in Erongo Region towards the end of last year. As my predecessor indicated in this august House last year, the system will assist the Ministry to register job seekers and take stock of the needs of employers and employees in terms of vacancies and job opportunities available in the country. It will ensure that the education system is responsive to the needs of the Labour Market.

Furthermore, consultations have been finalized with the National Planning Commission on the *Employment Creation Commission Bill*. The Bill is to promote the policy of Government to accelerate employment creation in Namibia. The Ministry has, therefore, requested the Chairperson of the Cabinet Committee on legislation to convene a meeting to discuss the Bill.

The work to review the 1997 National Employment Policy is in good progress. The new employment policy will have a national outlook which would be shared and endorsed by all the key stakeholders and will put the social economic issues on the national socio-political agenda.

As you may recall, in 2009 Cabinet directed the Ministry to promote productivity in the country. During the last Financial Year, again Cabinet authorized the Ministry to seek assistance from other countries with well established centers. A unit has been created in the Ministry and money is required to keep the project moving.

Labour Services

The *Labour Amendment Act*, (Act 2 of 2012) was implemented in August last year. This piece of legislation addresses the issue of labour hire and problems of disguised and ambiguous employment relations that our people faced. The labour hire practice and widespread casualisation had

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

caused labour unrest in the country, particularly in the Fishing, Mining, Wholesale and Retail Sectors. The *Amendment Act* has defined the role of the private employment agencies and user enterprises, a thorny and slippery relationship that has been fuelling labour disputes for years. Now the role of a middleman, known as labour hire, has been clarified.

Upon its implementation in August last year, African Personnel Services (APS) lodged a Court interdict to prevent the implementation of the Act. The Ministry opposed the matter, which was heard towards the end of September last year. Judgment has been reserved since then. It was discovered in 2009 under this Programme that there were 22 cases of Child Labour reported. The majority of resources under this Programme were pooled into investigation towards the eradication of Child Labour. An investigation carried out towards the end of last year confirmed that these cases were reduced to Six (6). The Programme was further gripped with enforcement of minimum wages in the Security Industry which was increased from N\$3.80 to N\$5.00 per hour last year.

Social Welfare Services

The Ministry undertakes, as one of its core functions, the payment of social grants to senior citizens and people living with disability who hold Namibian citizenship or holders of permanent residence permits. The payment of the grants is one of the social protection measures that our Government has committed itself since Independence. As you may recall in the previous Budget, the State Social Grants were increased from N\$500 to N\$550. The increase was successfully implemented. I am happy to commend the Honourable Minister of Finance, for making provisions to increase the State Social Grants to N\$600 during this Financial Year. During the 2011/2012 Financial Year, the coverage for the Old Age Grants was 90%. Last year the coverage increased to 97%. The disability coverage was 24% in 2011/2012 and the percentage rose to 65% currently. This high coverage rates were as a result of the Ministry's continuous outreach programme which is undertaken annually.

Moreover, the Ministry administered **Six Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Six (6756)** burials under the Funeral Benefit Programme for

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

beneficiaries that received Social Grants. In addition, the Ministry successfully engaged NAMPOST to introduce Ministry Controlled Bank Accounts to which social grants would be paid. This process will enable the Ministry to timely retrieve information from the designated bank accounts whereas in the current situation the process is tedious since the bank accounts are privately owned. The Ministry approached the International Labour Organization (ILO) to assist the Government in executing a social expenditure review that will improve the knowledge and information base on the coverage and performance of social protection in Namibia. To this end, the Ministry has entered into a co-operation with ILO for which a Memorandum of Agreement was duly signed. The project is scheduled to be undertaken over a six month period.

Decent Work Country Programme

Our domestic workers continue to suffer at the hands of their employers. In many instances, they are stripped of basic employment rights as enshrined in the *Labour Act*. It is against this back drop that a Wages Commission of Domestic Workers was established in May last year. The Commission investigated terms and conditions of employment of domestic workers to set a minimum wage for them. Following its launch, the Commission engaged in countrywide consultative public meetings that ended on 27 October 2012.

The report of the Commission with recommendations will be available in July 2013.

Employment Equity

The Office of the Employment Equity Commission was established to oversee the implementation of the *Affirmative Action (Employment) Act*, (Act 29 of 1998). The primary objective of the Affirmative Action Law is to eliminate employment barriers against persons in designated groups so as to ensure that no person shall be denied opportunities for reasons unrelated to occupational suitability. The Commission has reported slow but steady progress towards equity in employment. The *apartheid*

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

administration left behind a legacy of inequities in employment with regard to the distribution of jobs, incomes and occupations. Namibia is still regarded as one of the most skewed income distribution countries in the world and the income inequities are partly attributed to unfair discrimination in employment in terms of pay and employment opportunities.

These are, but some of the inherent challenges the Employment Equity Commission faces as it oversees the implementation of Affirmative Action in employment.

Labour Relations and Labour Dispute Resolutions

Through the Office of the Labour Commission, Namibia has established a labour dispute resolution process four years ago. This process is functioning fairly well as many ordinary employees find it very helpful and fair. Small and medium employers have also accepted the process as simple to understand, inexpensive and accessible in its operations.

However, despite the fact that the dispute resolution process is working well, the country experienced a surge in a number of industrial actions last year mainly in the form of strikes. The strikes were a result of many socio-economic factors that underpinned the disputes.

Employees are feeling the effects of economic hardship as many of their wages are unable to take them through to the next payday. Similarly, employers were affected by especially fuel prices and electricity costs. These and other factors had a direct bearing on wages negotiations, some of which ended in stalemates, hence the strikes. The Ministry is seriously considering the concept of a National Minimum Wage to stabilize wages in the country.

Although there has been a noticeable increase in collective bargaining process, the labour relations is still surrounded by mistrust and acute shortage of negotiations skills.

To address the above situation, the Ministry has consulted the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

International Labour Organization (ILO) to extend its technical expertise aimed at training social partners on best negotiation practices in the area of effective negotiations.

The Ministry has also embarked on capacity building efforts by engaging Trade Unions and employers on matters of mutual concern that are affecting their good labour relationship.

Honourable Deputy Chair of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, let me now turn to motivating the budgetary request and allocations for this Financial Year.

For the 2013/2014 Financial Year, the Ministry is requesting this august House, to approve an amount of **One Billion, Five Hundred and Forty Nine Million, Three Hundred and Four Thousand Namibia Dollars.(N\$1,549,304,000.00)**. This is **Two Hundred and Twenty Million, Four Hundred and Forty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$220, 440, 000.00)** more than the Budgetary Allocations of the previous Financial Year.

One Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty Eight Million, Five Hundred and Ninety One thousands Namibia dollars (N\$1,528,591,000.00) will be utilized for operational expenditure. A marginal **Twenty Million, Seven Hundred and Thirteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$20,713,000.00)** goes to the development budget of the Ministry. I now discuss individual Programmes as follows:

Programme 1: Labour Market Information and Employment Services

The purpose of this Programme is to facilitate employment planning by providing quantitative and scientific information through conducting of the labour market surveys and researches in Namibia. The Programme further provides vocational and occupational guidance; register job seekers and assist them to find suitable employment. It also provides services aimed at ensuring decent work, promote employment creation,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

productivity and reduce poverty.

Under this Programme, the Ministry starting from this year, will also commence with an annual national labour conference. To ensure that all the above-mentioned activities are successfully undertaken and implemented. **Fifty One Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Seven thousand Namibia dollars (N\$51,947,000)** is required.

Programme 2: Labour Services Protection

The main purpose of this Programme is to ensure the implementation of and compliance with the *Labour Act* (Act 11 of 2007). This is done by conducting Labour inspections, investigation of workplaces complaints and enforcement of compliance orders. Factory, boilers and elevator inspections to ensure occupational health and safety at workplace are also conducted under this Programme. The Programme also ensures the provision of technical information and advice to social partners on compliance with legal provisions such as minimum wages and other legal provisions. To carry out this mandate, the Ministry requires an amount of **Forty Two Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Four Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$42,944,000.00)**.

Programme 3: Industrial Relations (Prevention and Settlement of Industrial Disputes)

The Ministry has the Office of Labour Commissioner whose main purpose is to prevent and resolve labour disputes. It promotes orderly collective bargaining. The Office again promotes the principles of tripartism, enhances dispute resolution mechanism, procedures and established case management system. In like manner, the Office promotes principles of employees basic rights at work places, monitors, manages and controls industrial actions in the country. To effectively fulfill this essential mandate, an amount of **Twenty Nine Million, Four Hundred and One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$29, 401,000.00)** is required.

Programme 4: Employment Equity in the Country

As indicated earlier, the primary objective of this Programme, is to ensure full implementation of the *Affirmative Action (Employment)* (Act 29 of 1998) by the Employment Equity Commission. It makes sure that no person shall be denied employment opportunities for reasons unrelated to ability and guarantees that workforce are reflective of the demographics of Namibia. Hence, for the realisation of this mandate, an amount of **Eight Million and Twenty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$8,020,000.00)** is required.

Programme 5: Social Welfare Services

The purpose of this Programme is to contribute to the social and economic upliftment of Namibians. The aim is to reduce poverty through sufficient and sustainable safety nets. This include amongst others, strengthening the survival capacities of individuals, families and vulnerable groups of the society. This Programme administers old age and disability grants in accordance with the *National Pensions Act* (Act 10 of 1992) and the Funeral Benefits to those conforming to the said Act. Currently, the beneficiaries of the Old Age Grant stands at **Hundred and Forty Three Thousand and Seven (143,007)**, while that of the Disability Grant, stands at **Twenty Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Twelve (27,312)**. This gives the total beneficiaries of **Hundred and Seventy Thousand Three Hundred and Nineteen (N\$170,319)**. During the 2013/2014 Financial Year, the Ministry contemplates to achieve a coverage rate of 98% for the Old Age Grants, and 67% for the Disability Grants.

Honourable Deputy Chair of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, as you have learnt from the Finance Minister, the Old Age grants shall be increased by N\$50 this Financial Year. Thus for the fulfillment of this undertaking , the Ministry needs an amount of **One Billion, Three Hundred and Five Million, Four Hundred and Three thousand Namibia Dollars(N\$1,305.403,000.00)**. This is the lion share of the Ministry's Budgetary Allocations.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 14
HON KAZENAMBO

Programme 6: Planning and Administration

This Programme focuses on the formulation of policies and provision of administrative personnel and the organizational procedures. It provides logistics, material and equipment and transport services to the Ministry. It further provides other auxiliary services in addition to assisting the Minister in carrying out oversight responsibilities. Ensuring capacity building Programmes for social partners and other key stakeholders to improve social dialogue and strengthen tripartism also falls in this Programme. In addition, capital projects are also implemented under this Programme. This task will require an amount of **Seventy Six Million, Four Hundred and Sixteen thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$76,416,000.00)**. In addition, an amount of **Twenty Million, Seven Hundred and Thirteen thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$20,713,000.00)** is required for Capital Projects of the Ministry.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, in summary, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare implements six programs for which I am asking this August House to consider and approve **N\$1,549,304,000.00**. I thank you.

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

Vote 03 – “**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**”, put for Discussion. Any discussion. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have to declare my interest. I am going to speak on the speech of the Honourable Speaker, on leadership, when he was motivating and I am going to look at the welfare of the Members of the National Assembly.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAZENAMBO

I must declare my interest that I am not speaking on this issue today simply because I am an ordinary Member or a backbencher as you call it. I you have regard to the Hansard, I also spoke last year in the same fashion. That is the declaration of my interest, before I speak on leadership and the welfare of the Members of Parliament from both Houses and indeed even Ministers. Comrades, the Speaker have spoken elaborately and eloquently as usual about what leadership is; how it works for now and providing for the future. I will not paraphrase him, but he spoke about leadership. I may add that leadership in whatever way you look at it, is nothing less and nothing more than a sacrifice. Leadership is a sacrifice and any society without leadership will be a lost society.

The remuneration and the welfare of the Namibian leaders, to be honest, Members of Parliament including Ministers need a serious relook because whether we like it or not we are doing a disservice to this country. I know very well that in our cultures, I am referring to the remuneration and the welfare of the Members of Parliament from both Houses and the Ministers, you apparently do not live to speak about your welfare. Personally I will speak about the welfare on behalf of my brothers and sisters because as I am talking now, you can take me out; I am paid better now than I was paid when I was a Minister. To be honest, and I am not insulting and ridiculing many of my fellow Members of Parliament and Ministers here. I wonder if I was not having a chain of companies, even this car that I had as a Minister on which I used to pay tax on, I could not have afforded it and that is a fact – I could not have afforded it. I am receiving a cheque of N\$25,000.00 which is equivalent to the entertainment allowance of managers at my companies. Therefore, my salary is entertainment allowance for my managers at my companies. (Interjection) you can come and work for me as long as you are productive and not sleeping on the job.

Comrades, I said it when I was on the other side of the aisle, when I was still a Member of the Executive. I was saying that, you go to meetings with other Ministers of the same rank and you quietly choose a location where to sleep (intervention).

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAZENAMBO

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Kazenambo, can you please come to your point?

HON KAZENAMBO: I am coming to my point which is the remuneration of Ministers and Members of Parliament. I am saying that this world is linked to the globe, Namibia is not in isolation. You attend meetings with other Members of Parliament, the S&T which people are insulted about, there is no S&T here. The hotel rates in the countries you are visiting are not determined by Namibia, they are determined by those countries. We either have Members of Parliament or Ministers or we stop calling them Ministers, because if we call them Ministers there is no crime whatsoever in increasing their welfare. We must pay for their duties. It is either we have leaders or we choose to have none. Irrespective of where we come from or what Parties we represent, we are not criminals here. I will say it, *oviporoporo kamaa tukara oku treatua tjimuna ouete omarunga*. (Intervention)

HON !NAWASES-TAEYELE: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Member, are you aware that in countries like Kenya and Uganda, Members of Parliament there determine their own salaries, it is not determined by someone else. It is orderly and Parliament decides on the remuneration of its Members. Thank you.

HON KAZENAMBO: I am very much aware of that. We have been talking about this issue for quite some time, let us be serious about it. I am aware that in many countries of course and I appreciate the background where we are coming from. (Intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I have a question for my

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAZENAMBO

son, Honourable Kazenambo. Honourable Kazenambo, you are talking about the Members of Parliament and Ministers, since the Namibian Head of State is also part and parcel of this group, why did you exclude him?

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you for adding him, but I meant the entire Executive and Political Office-Bearers. We have been having a Committee working on the welfare of the Political Office-Bearers for the past three or five years, but up to now we do not know what direction it is taking, today it is going this way, tomorrow it is that way. What I was answering is that, I am aware Members of Parliament in many countries have assistant researchers, I do not need any personally, but the system must cater for these things. It comes with a cost, there is no crime in having researchers or assistants and there is no crime in paying your Members well. If you do not pay your leaders well there is no way they will be productive and that is any worker, any exploited worker even if it is an exploited President, Minister or Member of Parliament. Take me to the doctor today and compare me to when I was a Minister, I am much healthier, I am looking well, I am relaxed, I do not endure insults and that is why I am saying that leadership is a sacrifice. I am about to conclude; leadership is a sacrifice. You are insulted, you are called at night, you have to account for the welfare of your people, and so forth. That is why we are still sitting up to this time; there is nobody else in Namibia working at this hour. Some of these people started working at 8:00 and may continue until midnight including myself. Let us be serious and fair with this issue. Let us remunerate the Namibian leaders, they are leaders elected through the process, we do not need to torture and punish them to become taxi drivers. Taxi driving is a job, but we do not have a system here. Let us start building a system for fair remuneration of Member of Parliament, they are not criminals. I rest my case.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Ueitele followed by Honourable Kapia.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON UEITELE / HON KAPIA

HON UEITELE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support the Vote of the National Assembly and I have a question on Page 2 to the Honourable Speaker on the envisaged new Parliament building. Since we have Members of Parliament coming from different Regions and it is difficult to find accommodation in Windhoek, is there any provision made in the building, like flats, to accommodate Members of Parliament. That is the only question I have and I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kapia, followed by Honourable P Mushelenga.

HON KAPIA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. My concern is on Page 3, *Administration*. Honourable Speaker some of the issues mentioned by Honourable Kazenambo, in particular researchers and Personal Assistants (PAs) to Members of Parliament, I do not think that this need any bureaucracy.

Honourable Speaker, I would like to appeal through you to the Office of the Secretary to the National Assembly to avail staff to assist Members of Parliament. Some Honourable Members, may for instance, leave from here to the airport to go somewhere to attend and address conferences and on their return they have to travel with Committees and there is nobody assisting them. This is a very serious issue that does not need any Agenda for Change because it is squarely on management of the National Assembly. The Secretary and his team should approach the Public Service Commission and talk to them, if they do not want, then they must come here so that we question them ourselves, because for some things we do not need two months for a decision to be taken or to be implemented. (Intervention).

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03

HON KAPIA

HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT: I very reluctantly stand up to pose a question to Honourable Kapia. Honourable Kapia, listening to you speaking, I can very vividly recall that either in the late 90's or early 2000, we had a programme that we then referred to as the Agenda for Change, are you telling me that that programme has not come to fruition? Thank you.

HON KAPIA: Yes, Comrade Minister it is true, the Agenda for Change is a hot potato here. Nobody wants to talk about it and nobody wants to implement it; that is why I said some of these things do not even need to go there. It is a reality and a practical situation which hampers the work of Parliament and that of individual Members of Parliament to deliver to the expectations of the Namibian people. Committees are not institutionalised up to now. People always say; when you want to kill something, create a Committee. These Standing Committees here are not respected and taken seriously. I do not know who is really blocking Committees to be institutionalised. In other countries, if you go to a Committee, you go to a very well organised institution, having researchers who try by all means to ensure that Members of a Committee are updated with accurate information and they have accurate information at hand when they travel. However, when it comes to the Namibian Parliament, we sometimes sit here and keep quiet, because I ask myself whether I am really doing what I am expected to do. We are working under frustration,

Honourable Dingara, one day said; "*we do not know where the power lies*". We do not know who sits on the decisions of the National Assembly's Standing Rules and Orders, preventing them from being implemented. I do not know who prevents the implementation of the Agenda for Change in this country. I want to know who that particular person is, because it must be a person who is jealous about the development and the work of the Namibian Parliament. This is sabotage of the highest order, sabotage to the Namibian people who elected their representatives to provide leadership, guide them properly and drive the development of this country. Thank you and I support the Vote.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON P MUSHELENGA

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

HON P MUSHELENGA: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support our Vote, Vote 03 of the National Assembly. One of the issues that I would want to speak about is the issue of training, because if you want to ensure effective participation and service delivery of the Members of Parliament, it should go hand in hand with training. I remember when the Deputy Speaker was the Chairperson of the Committee of Legal Affairs, she did, in conjunction with the University of Namibia, organise a basic legal course which all the Members of Parliament who were available attended. I did not go through that because I was doing a more substantive legal course, but looking at the content, it was very helpful to the Members and I think if we have enough funds provided for training, not only for courses such as that one, the Economic Committee, for example, need basic training for its Members on basic economic principles; they need to be trained on issues like EPAs that we are talking about and so on. I really think that we need to pay more attention to the issue of training. I read on Page 2 that “*a Joint Parliamentary Committee was established with a view to strengthen cooperation between the two Houses of Parliament, looking at structures and lists of Parliament as a whole*” and Honourable Speaker, times during the Budget Discussions as this one, are the times that I think about Joint Sessions of the Houses, if we would have Joint Sessions during the time that we discuss the Budget, it will provide Members of the National Council with an opportunity to pose questions directly to Ministers and be informed through replies, because we discuss here and Members of the National Assembly have the benefit of asking questions to Ministers and then the Bill goes to the National Council. They may have questions and the Ministers will not be there to answer and so on. I really think, as we are discussing cooperation of the structures of the two Houses, this is one of the issues that we can look at.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MOONGO

Yesterday I spoke about the equality of Branches of the Government, perhaps there is not so much of a clear understanding that people think the National Assembly is a Line Ministry, which is not the case, but Parliament is a Branch of Government. When you start treating the Members of Branches of Government differently, it sends a wrong message that one Branch is above the other, which is not the case. I am speaking, for example, when you look at budgeting, yes, Committees and things are budgeted for, but we have issues whereby we go and celebrate national days, the Members of the Executive are catered for in terms of subsistence and travel allowances, however, Members of Parliament, as Honourable Kazenambo was saying, you find them sleeping in cheap accommodation establishments because they do not even receive S&T, for instance, when they went for the Independence celebrations to Oshakati. While Ministers receive S&Ts to pay for accommodation outlets, the Members of Parliament do not have that. When it comes to the equality of Branches of Government, you make one Branch look inferior to another. This thing is not good and it should come to an end. I thank you.

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

HON MOONGO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. We are supposed to have an answer here today; we trust and elected our Speaker and he is the Officer in charge to run our affairs. He is dedicated and competent to solve problems. The other Members of Parliament, Regional Councillors at the National Council already received cars, but we at the National Assembly are just pushed around. Our adjustments are sent left and right on a daily basis and one does not know whether it was with the Public Office-Bearers Remuneration and Benefits Commission, because the Commission does not exist as it never reports to us. (Intervention)

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DINGARA

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER AND CHILD WELFARE:

On a Point of Order, may I ask the Honourable Vice President of DTA a question? Honourable Vice President of the DTA, on behalf of the public out there, can you please provide the types and number of cars of the Members of the National Council?

HON MOONGO: She is maybe not aware of that, but according to my practical research, they were given official cars or they are about to be given official cars. I was saying that; let us not lose hope because we have a dedicated Speaker who can represent us on our problems. Imagine the messengers, what is N\$3,000.00 per month? That is peanuts for someone who needs to look after his family's wellbeing. Other staff members, like cleaners have been ignored for all the years. Honourable Speaker, please, we do not want to lose the patience and trust we have in you. We do not obtain money from somewhere through corrupt means, we work for our money and you are our witness. I hope you will address the matter. Thank you very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Dingara, followed by Honourable Ulenga.

HON DINGARA: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I am on the same page with the issue that was raised by Honourable Kazenambo. The only thing that will help us is to speak the truth and expose it to the public. When I look at the condition of the retired Members of Parliament, I am afraid to retire. However, because the fact that I will be forced to retire; I will retire and join them. When we say that the remuneration is not sufficient, I am wondering what we are comparing this to. If one says his/her remuneration is small, smaller than what? When we went to the Netherlands, they gave us the whole salary structure of the Government, it is not a secret, they gave it to us. That included any person who is receiving remuneration from the State revenue

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DINGARA

according their ranks while here the salary structures of politicians, the Police and the unified structure of the Civil Servants are hidden somewhere. The teachers' salary structure is also different (Intervention).

HON UEITELE: Can I please ask the Honourable Member a question? Honourable Dingara, are you aware that the perception of the public out there is that Members of Parliament are receiving a very huge salary?

HON DINGARA: Honourable Ueitele, I am aware of that, because we hide it, they do not know. They are just imagining it, because they know that the Ministers' and the Speaker's positions are higher than citizens' in the country; however, the reality is different. I support Justice Damaseb's Commission for revealing it to the public, but what was missing from that publication was a complete comparison of all the salaries in the Public Service so that people make their judgments saying that; "*is the Minister number five in the Ministry? The Director is paid higher than the Minister*". The people who pay the Minister's salary know that the salary of the Minister is lower than theirs, while the Minister believes that his remuneration is higher because he is the head of the Ministry. They know that. (Intervention)

HON MOONGO: Can I ask the Honourable Member a Question? Are you aware that some of the staff members from Parastatals are receiving higher salaries than Members of Parliament, the Ministers and even the President and what comment do you have if you are serious about the irregular implementation of these salary adjustments?

HON DINGARA: Honourable Moongo, I am aware of that as well. However, the solution to that problem of Honourable Moongo is what the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DINGARA

Speaker was saying in the Standing Rules and Order meeting that we must create a Salary Commission of Namibia. A Salary Commission that will be responsible to centrally handle all the salaries of the Public Servants, whether it is the salary of the Parastatals, because it is public money or the salary of Parliamentarians. Many countries have Salary Commissions that manage all the salaries, while the Members of Parliament and others concentrate on their jobs and do not need to complain like we are doing here today in Parliament. The situation is worse, that is why you see people standing up here. What I am trying to say is that, until such a time that we properly publicise so that everybody knows everything – because if we hide it, it is corruption, let us let it out so that everybody can see and judge for themselves that; “*our Councillors are receiving nothing*”, so that school principals, inspectors and chief registered nurses will not accept when they are nominated to serve as Councillors, they should refuse saying that; “*no the salary there is too small, I do not want*”, so that we can only nominate people who are unemployed as Councillors in order to get the service at the level (intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Honourable Deputy chairperson, on a Point of Order, may I ask Honourable Dingara a Question? Honourable Dingara, we are now preparing for 2014, tell us how we should prepare for 2014 because new people are coming in, tell us where we are going to stay from now on.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Dingara, please go ahead.

HON DINGARA: Let me just conclude by saying that the fear that the Honourable Deputy Minister has is a serious fear, because we have seen what is in Kenya, South Africa and what is in poor countries, we have also seen what is happening in Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique and we

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON ULENGA

know what is in Botswana and Angola, we have almost researched the whole world and know what the provisions there are. The Members are now sitting here without knowing what will happen next, because they did not bring themselves here and the very people will decide; *“this one was not performing, he is out”*, and then it will be time for you to go. We are, therefore, left with no choice but to go and join others, Comrade Minister. However, if you go back to school to teach they will say that; *“this person was a Member of Parliament and now he is a teacher, he does not know how to manage his finances, how can he become a teacher again?”* You can become a Police Officer after being a Member of Parliament, you go and seek employment. Therefore, someone should be able to correct the situation in order to reduce the politicians’ fear.

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

HON ULENGA: Thank Deputy Chairperson. I do not have to repeat some of the things that were discussed by the preceding speakers. I think we are discussing quite some hefty issues here; we, therefore, need to discuss it with the required sobriety. Every day when you read newspapers, you are not allowed to forget that you live in Namibia, which is a very poor Nation, even though it is a rich country. A very rich country with very poor people. When there was some kind of debate in the media recently, concerning the issues that we are talking about, it came to the forefront and we should also keep it there. People should not think that this is an attempt at enriching ourselves to the detriment of our brothers and sisters.

However, seeing that most of the issues have been raised, I just want to talk more on the personal side of a Member of Parliament. I recently travelled to Omedi and met many of the Colleagues who were also Invited. I was not invited as Ulenga because the people there never know me as Ulenga, I was invited as a Member of Parliament to go and witness

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON ULENGA

some important cultural event that was taking place. Since it was late, sympathisers who saw me offered me a single room in their house to spend the night. I told them that I was with three other colleagues and they inquired who they were. I told them; *“one is my assistant, the other my driver and the other one was just somebody who helps to carry my bag because it gets heavier at times as I suffer from a back problem”*, but then the people told me that; *“we did not know that you are travelling with these people, how can you travel with four people when you cannot even afford your own place?”* That was Omedi.

I was again invited to Berseba for the same thing, I had to send a message to Berseba and say I could not come, I declined. With all the repercussions, I am missing out on some of the things that I really like, the *Nama Stap*, I am missing out on meeting people there and I am missing out on following events in the country. I am supposed to cover the whole of Namibia as a single Constituency. I have to know and follow the history of events so that next time when we debate about certain issues here, I will not mix up matters. I have noticed that some of Namibia’s Members of Parliament do not even know where Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia meet, because they have not been there, they do not have the necessary time, equipment, material and people to assist them in knowing and understanding matters concerning their own country better, let alone the globe in general.

When I talked about Omedi, I think that can already show you the predicament I am in when it comes to matters of security. When some people see me driving alone they say; *“can this man not see that he needs to drive with somebody, what will he do in case this or that happen?”* I am not talking about a State acquired security guard because the Government has refused or has not provided us with that, but still whether Government has or has not (interjection) that could be another issue, I know that it happens right through, that houses of Members of Parliament are burgled and sometimes some of the burglaries are very funny. One does not know whether they were intended intimidations or simply burglaries. However the security issue is a real issue.

Concerning mobility, do not even talk about living in Khomas, a few days

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON ULENGA

ago I had to go to Okahandja Park, because some of the members of the community there feared that they were going to be removed by our City Council. I could not get up the hill with my Toyota Corolla, I revved up the car and it went tumbling down and everybody realised it was Ben Ulenga and started laughing, saying; “*a Member of Parliament, why did you not come with your what or what car?*” and I told them that I cannot afford it. (Intervention)

HON MEMBER: What about the Land Cruiser?

HON ULENGA: Which Land Cruiser? Where will you get it. Some of the Members who were there can remember when we went to Ruacana recently and we were accompanied by MPs from another country. These MPs – one MP had three staff members doing the work that they were supposed to do and you had to put your tail properly between your legs, because your dignity is severely and fundamentally affected when you have to sit with a Member of another country, who is an MP like yourself and they can just say; “*so and so check up for me this and that on the laptop*”, and you do not have anyone to check anything for you. I think somebody spoke about sabotage. Perhaps we are sabotaging ourselves. I get embarrassed when the Dingara thing of *where the power lies* comes up. If we can sit here and try to search where the power lies, then we need our heads to be examined.

We sit in this House and we do not know where the power lies, the power is supposed to lie with ourselves. There is something called the ruling class and we are supposed to be representing the ruling class, whatever that ruling class is, Comrade Ilonga, because we are trying to make things better here so that those who are living in this country, running their businesses, running their empires and households, can do it in peace and order. We pass Laws that ensure that things do not go in a chaotic way in the country, but we are really doing it for nothing and we fail to do it properly because we are not well equipped to do it. We are sitting ducks.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAVETUNA

This is, therefore, one occasion where the English saying that says; “*the bug stops here*” is completely meaningless.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I rest my case.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Members, please, I appeal to you and I would like to remind you that we are busy with the Committee Stage, be specific. I call upon, Honourable Kavetuna.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I just want to express my sympathy and empathy, especially to the backbenchers on the conditions under which they execute their work. I moved a little bit and I know that it is so hard where I left you Colleagues. The Parliament is one of the pillars or the Arms of the State and I feel it is really inappropriate that the staff members of the Assembly are still being recruited through the process of the Public Service Commission with all its functions and that brings about a lot of delays and I thought that it will be appropriate if we could have just pushed the idea that the Parliamentary Service Commission is established as soon as possible in order for us to have quality employees to assist us in terms of the drafting of Laws and all the other things that we need to carry out in this House.

The next thing that I want to talk about is the Office of the Chief Whip. In many instances when we talk about the Office of the Chief Whip, it is not only the Chief Whip and a Secretary; it is supposed to be an established office with researchers and people who will assist the office to execute its mandate better. Therefore, I think it is high time that we should think about that office with high regard and give it the value that it deserve, one can say that that office is underrated in Namibia. (Intervention)

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAVETUNA

HON KAPIA: Can I ask Honourable Kavetuna a question? Honourable Kavetuna, you started by saying that you left us somewhere and you are now somewhere, are you now having a cell phone allowance?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: I do not have to say it, but I know that the cell phone allowance that I left behind was non-existent in any case. Parliamentarians are not given any cell phone allowances, they still have to use the landline of N\$500.00 per month while the staff of the Parliament – I think the Secretary is getting something like N\$1500.00 per month, but Parliamentarians who are in constant communication with the people, only get N\$500.00 credit on a landline. This is very embarrassing and uncalled for. I was saying the Office of the Chief Whip is a very important office and needs to be look after.

I know that the Committee Services have received a bunch (intervention).

HON DINGARA: May I ask Honourable Kavetuna a small question? He (sic) was referring to (interjections)

HON MEMBERS: She!

HON DINGARA: Sorry, I withdraw the *he*. She was referring to the credit on the landline in the office, how did she use to deal with the landline when she was out on duty, did she use to run to the office every time she needed to make a call? I did not use my landline for the past two years now as I did not know there was some credit. How did you use your N\$500.00 at the office?

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KAVETUNA

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: Honourable Dingara, I know that I look more like my dad so you maybe think it is him around here. Most of us never used the landlines and we opted to use our cell phones because we are e-people as Honourable Amweelo said, we thus communicate better on a cell phone. I do not know where the landline allocation had gone to because it never came to us. (Intervention)

HON WITBOOI: On a Point of Information. Just to share information with you, Honourable Kavetuna, as I am standing here, I *d'accord* the allowance and am now in a negotiation process. I already started with my neighbour here before we went for a break. I am also thinking about negotiating with some Members who are not in the office every day, I am, therefore, forced to do unlawful things, are you aware of that?

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: That is just information, go ahead.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: The last point is that we are spending such a lot of money on Reports, when the Committees go out to investigate in order to get information on the ground from the grass roots and compile Reports that are forwarded to the Executive, I, therefore, want to request the Office of the Speaker if we can have a follow up mechanism on the implementation of the recommendations that come from our Committee, because those Reports are not just for fun or for repetition, but to make sure that after the House endorses these Reports, implementation should take place. However, there need to be a timeframe within which the Executive should come and report on a specific Report on how the recommendations were executed in the Report, otherwise it will just be a waste of money without any impact at the end of the day.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON NANDI-NDAITWAH

I wholeheartedly support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Ndaitwah, followed by Honourable Ncube.

HON MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson. I firstly, thank the Honourable Speaker for presenting our Vote, specifically with reference to the issue of the welfare of Members of Parliament which is reflected in the speech. Of course, I will not go to the issue of the salaries of the Political Office-Bearers, because as a Member of Parliament and the Nation, we all already know that the Committee has reported in accordance with the established Law that we passed here and action has been taken and I think we as Parliamentarians and Lawmakers know that very well, and for us to stand here and talk about the issue which the President in accordance to the Law has dealt with is very difficult.

However, on the capacity building and the improvement of the work of Parliament, it is true that this Programme has been identified from the beginning when this Parliament was established and that is why Parliament took a decision to sent out a team of Parliamentarians assisted by the staff to go to other countries to assess and to learn and that is where the document, which I can confidently talk about, because I was the one who presented and defended it in this House – the Agenda for Change, which has looked into what should be done to strengthen the work of Parliament, both for the National Assembly and the National Council. The document even went further to strengthen the work of the elected representatives, particularly in the Regions.

I am happy that some of the elements have been implemented, for example the establishment of Constituent Offices is the result of that document. The part that still remains is to strengthen the research

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

component of that Report because it is made very clear, it is not only that Members of Parliament do not have time, we also know that Members of Parliament are not experts on the issues which are discussed here, not all the Members of Parliament have even done research and one cannot tell them to do research in order to enrich the Debate so that we can have a smoother and most effective way of making our Laws. That is why that document recommends that there is a need to have Budgetary Allocations in order to have a pool of professionals. We saw in other countries that they have a pool of lawyers and politicians at their disposal as Parliamentarians, who can just say; *“in a week’s time I would like to debate on this, make a research on it”*. That is the part which is crucial for implementation. Therefore, I support our Vote and still stand by that document which I presented to this House, defended and which was adopted in this House. I thank you.

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

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole house Committee for giving me the Floor to also add my voice to this Vote of ours.

In view of the document presented by the Honourable Speaker for the Budget allocated to the National Assembly, I have noted the absence of simple medical facilities on Parliament building with deep regret. If one of us faints or experiences a partial cardiac arrest, I am sure by the time the medical fraternity arrives at the Parliament building that person’s situation would surely have exacerbated beyond control. Because of the time constraint on most of our Parliamentarians, they only visit their family doctors when the disease has already taken a toll on them and it may be too late by then.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

Honourable Speaker, I do, therefore, suggest the provision of a parliamentary clinic at the Parliament building with a nurse and/or a doctor who can regularly check all Parliamentarians and staff continuously, especially for some of those lifestyle diseases. This may reduce some of the unfortunate incidences on us by these silent killer diseases such as diabetes, cholesterol (intervention).

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Thank you very much. May I pose a question to my sister? As you are suggesting a clinic at the Parliament building, why not also add an ATM for security reasons? Request that also on my behalf.

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Yes, Honourable Sioka, I agree with you on that as well, it is also very much essential. A gym could also be necessary for us to exercise here. Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am also deeply concerned by the continuous absence of the sign language interpretation on the Debates of Parliament. Our Debates and Proceedings are not disability friendly in terms of sign language interpretation. May I, therefore, take this noble opportunity to request the sign language interpretation for Parliamentary Sessions so that those with hearing challenges may be able to follow our Debates. Sometimes they just see hands being thrown and fingers being pointed without understanding what is going on, they may also want to follow the sensational stories that take place in this Parliament. In the same vein, the Hansard and other relevant documents that are available to the public have also not been translated to Braille at our Parliament and it is difficult for those who can only communicate through that method. The absence thereof, critically exclude them from information and data relevant to them. Our National Council has already implemented the Braille strategy; we can maybe also follow the example as the National Assembly.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I would also like to talk about the transport facilities that Members of Parliament

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MUTORWA

are being transported in when they attend various events outside their duty stations. The Members are being flocked into one bus and I was just thinking loudly that if something happens, a lot of Parliamentarians lives will be lost. Is there no way Parliamentarians can be provided with individual transport so that the worst case scenario may be avoided, should an accident happen. I am not wishing for a bad omen, but these are things that can happen. This could also be considered to prevent us from losing some of the lives of our Parliamentarians. Thank you, very much. I wholeheartedly support the Vote.

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

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson. I am rising to make a humble contribution to this Debate and listening to the very valid points and concerns that the Honourable Members are raising, I am premising my contribution on Article 60 of the Namibian Constitution,.

Article 60 of the Namibian Constitution details the duties, privileges and immunities of the Members of Parliament and listening to the concerns, I am afraid that we might be in breach of some of what was intended in this Article, for example, (1)(a) says that; *“all members of the National Assembly shall maintain the dignity and image of the National Assembly both during the sittings of the National Assembly as well as in their acts and activities outside the National Assembly”*. I am not so sure, how does one maintain the dignity outside with all these problems; one is stranded, the hitchhikes and I do not know, it looks like a very serious matter.

I go further and refer to Article 60(1)(b) that says; *“all Members of the National Assembly shall regard themselves as servants of the people”*, which we are, *“of Namibia and desist from any conduct by which they seek improperly to enrich themselves or alienate themselves from the*

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MUTORWA

public". With all these, I am just going to propose that – I have just checked with the clerk that at least Article 60(3) of the Namibian Constitution states that; "*Rules providing for the privileges and immunities of Members of the National Assembly shall be made by Act of Parliament*" and I have just established that that Act is in place, but it looks as if we maybe have to revisit that Act and strengthen it because it looks as if that Act is more on protecting our conduct, what we do here. Therefore, whether I speak here on the Floor that I should not be prosecuted outside and so on, we maybe need to look at whether we cannot include some benefits in that Act, not necessarily to the Members of Parliament as individual Members, but benefits that will enhance and enable the Members of Parliament to execute their responsibilities while maintaining their dignity both inside and outside Parliament.

Therefore, my proposal would then be, maybe not during this Debate, but I think we should also spend some sufficient quality time during the course of the Sessions to come because the same Constitution's and our Standing Rules and Orders' instruments give some powers to some of the Standing Committees that we have in place to make some specific recommendations that can come on this Floor for us to debate, adopt and use it as an instrument to effect some of the changes that we would like to see. My proposal will then be that at an appropriate time, the Standing Rules and Orders as well as the Parliamentary Committee on Privileges, which are very important Committees, can look into all these concerns and then prepare, at an appropriate time some specific proposals, even the *Private Person's Bill*, dealing with those issues and once adopted we can forward it, because the Constitution also gives us the power to advise the President. The President here now implies the Executive or Cabinet and maybe rather than complaining, of course people have to complain, but complaining without any concrete facts, probably we will continue to complain, because we have been complaining for the past 23 years. That is my proposal and I rest my case. Thank you.

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

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DR KAIYAMO

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would also like to support the Vote from the onset and I would just like to touch base on the Honourable Speaker's Motivation Speech, specifically on the leadership.

I commend the current and the late Speakers for their leadership. I know that we are complaining, but I can see that there has been a lot of improvement over the past 23 years. Rome was not built in one day and I hope we will get there. Let me just say what I am trying to emphasise with that. When I initially started as a Parliamentarian in the year 2000, our salary was less than a cleaner today and it only improved when Dr Hage Geingob, Dr Amweelo and Honourable Amathila joined as backbenchers. We Parliamentarians were even denied Diplomatic Passports, we were only provided with Official Passports. A Diplomatic Passports was a privilege to only Ministers and I just want us to be on the same page. Everybody in this House now has a Diplomatic Passport. This is all because of good leadership.

Secondly, you will only be able to appreciate the concerns of the backbenchers if you were a backbencher before, otherwise you will not feel the pinch. For example, Ministers can travel to attend any meeting at any time, 24/7, whether it is in Karasberg, Oluno or Okakarara while the backbenchers who are also members of their Political Parties cannot travel. I would like us to look at that issue.

Finally, Comrade Speaker, keep up the good work, especially on the issue of the born-frees. Those born-frees who were in the first Youth Parliament, are now leaders in their own rights.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUAITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, may I ask Honourable Dr Kaiyamo a question? Since I am not an educated person, is it true that there is some money deducted for the car that we are using or am I just imagining myself? I want the public

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MBUMBA

to know, because they only understand that the Ministers only travel around for free. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Yes, you are right that Ministers are paying money for the cars that they are driving, there is no free lunch. However, the backbenchers can also pay and that is the point I am trying to make. *Meme*, you are part of the leadership team of our Parliament and this Nation.

The last one is on the division of labour; Comrade P Mushelenga was talking about the legs of Parliament. Comrades, we must stop paying lip services to vocabulary; when we talk about the three legs of Government, we must mean it as Parliamentarians form an important part of these Pillars. I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON MBUMBA: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole house Committee. This is my first intervention since we started discussing the Budget and I am happy to rise and support Vote 03 – “**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**” as it is our Vote and my Vote. For the first time since I joined Parliament way back in 1993/1994, I am receiving my salary from Parliament. I initially thought this is a unique situation as I do not have a Vote to motivate and a Budget to present, I was hoping that they will put me up there so that I can be naughty like all the new Member of Parliament, but they put me in front so that I can behave myself.

It is nice to be a privileged backbencher, to sit in front without presenting

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DR KAWANA

any Vote. My responsibility now is to support every single Vote, because every Vote is my Vote too, particularly Vote 03. I have been watching and listening to all the Honourable Members how they presented their Votes excellently, that is why I did not have to jump up and intervene.

I only want to say a few things because the Honourable Speaker indicated clearly on Page 1 that we are the leaders of this country and should lead in order to build our country, we should show good examples as they were set by others, show the young people so that they follow our good example when they become leaders and we have to show maturity. We must remember one thing, however, that despite the fact that we want to give more money to each Vote, there is a procedure how you amend a Bill and this Budget is a Bill too, therefore, you do not just stand up and say; *“let us deduct or let us add money here”*.

The other thing is the centrality of the Ministry of Finance when it comes to financial matters. If the Ministry of Finance lose control of keeping good policies and of how we utilise the money, no Minister will look good because people do not respect Ministers from countries where the Ministers of Finance are not in charge of financial matters.

Lastly, I would just like to encourage us to respect our Presiding Officers. Having a shouting match with the Presiding Officer is not the best a Parliamentarian can show to other Parliamentarians and to the public. Long live the Republic of Namibia and I support the Vote.

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

HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. It was indeed not my intention to take part in this Debate, however, after

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DR KAWANA

hearing from some Honourable Memebbers, I want to clarify a few issues.

Firstly, I rise to support the Vote, it is our Vote as Members of Parliament and as I said last year, it has also been confirmed this year that those who are talking too much on the Votes are backbenchers and the main reason is that some of them are squatters. They prefer to talk and go straight to bed from here because of the conditions that they are faced with and it is so obvious, even on this Budget, they are the ones who are keeping us here until midnight, they are the happiest ones. However, I want to separate two issues; they are those issues where, in order to enhance the function of the Member of Parliament, you need certain tools which are of financial implications and I wholeheartedly support that. There are no reasons why the Members of Parliament should struggle to attend national days, for example, it is really a scandal to me. I do not think there is someone else to blame but ourselves, because we have this Vote here that can be used.

There is confusion, because what happens is that; when our national leaders want to attend some of these national days as part of the Legislature, they are subjected to the Rules which are applicable to Civil Servants, which to me is wrong. My proposal to the Honourable Speaker is that there must be a Sub-vote where funds can be placed and it will not be illegal for Members of Parliament to attend some of these national events. Some of these things like researchers, assistants and so forth can be put in the Vote without any problem. However, there are those other issues which are not really the domain of the discussion here we passed the Law on *Public Office-Bearers Commission Act* and some of those issues, like salaries belong to that Law which was passed by this Parliament. Therefore, we really have to separate that.

Then there are also other issues that I am hearing the Opposition complaining more about because there are some of those programmes that we call individual programmes of the Members of Parliament which are aimed at enhancing their political outlook, that is why Political Parties receive funding from the State and those issues must be separated so that this confusion can be clarified. There is some money which must be used by individual Political Parties, which is provided by the State, particularly for those Political Parties that are represented in the House. They cannot,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON AMATHILA

apart from that, demand to use the money that is appropriated under the National Assembly or National Council and that will be wrong in my opinion. However, there are some of those funds, as I said, which are intended to enhance their efficiency and that I wholeheartedly support. With these few remarks, I support the Vote.

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

HON AMATHILA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise to support the Vote. A lot of things that I obviously wanted to share have been said, so I want to support that; this includes the establishment of a clinic for the Members of Parliament at the Parliament that was mentioned by Honourable Ncube. There was an incident of a lady working in the restaurant, where something happen in the elevator and she had to be rushed to the hospital and anything can happen to anyone of us. I know that it will work out expensive and it is not in our Budget, but we really need to consider setting up such a facility, not only for the Parliamentarians, but also for the staff members of people in Cabinet working in the adjacent buildings who take a lot of time off to go to clinics that are far away and things of this sort. It is equally true with the ATM, I do not know whether the banks will agree, maybe we are a small group of people – an ATM somewhere here, where people can do their transactions. From the clinic I am trying to exclude the gym, which will probably be a luxury, but a facility so that whoever feels a headache or toothache should not leave the premises only because he/she has to go to a clinic.

The other thing that I thought I should raise is a point mentioned by Honourable Kaiyamo a moment ago. We are running a risk because we do not want to provide better transport facilities for the backbenchers of this House. People are sometimes packed, eight or ten in a minibus to

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON AMATHILA

undertake a trip outside the capital. We have so far been lucky that nothing serious has happened, but we cannot take advantage of the luck of the past. Comrade Speaker, it is in my view that we have to Budget for these kinds of things in the future and all of us have to agree that a car to a Member of Parliament is just an essential tool for him/her to realise his/her responsibilities. It will not workout cheap if by denying Members will allow a situation to develop where maybe all ten Members of Parliament will be killed at one go in an accident and we have to account to all the relatives and families of these people simply because we were so stingy to facilitate comfort for them to do their work.

The third thing that I thought I should mention is; I know Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila will think that I am too oblivious to her skills of trying to put things together in order to make a beautiful Budget for us, the function of Parliamentary Committees is such that we are supposed to help the Executive in the carrying out of their duties and not that you take over and accept that oversight function. You are expected to study, understand and see what the weaknesses are in those objectives that we are trying to reach on the Executive side and make recommendations. All of us are being elected, not on the basis of our qualification or skills, you are elected because people have trust in you and you may have a lack of other skills to do your work perfectly. This is not only a phenomenon in Namibia but all over the world.

If you watch people conducting a hearing in Britain, they are not Members of Parliament who scrutinise, crucify or raise questions to the person in the dock; they have experts at the cost of Parliament. They bring in lawyers and experts to raise those questions on the topic at hand and the Parliamentarians have to try and see how best they can utilise their time to make the country tick. It is really pathetic sometimes, as Honourable Kazenambo was saying that sometimes you are tempted to feel that if you have better opportunities somewhere else why do you have to sit here? You sit here because the Constitution says that you have to regard yourselves as the servants of the people and that is the only thing that makes you sit here. Just be careful, the quality of our Parliamentarians may go down with time when Parliamentarians who have better chances to get better job and better remunerations would go somewhere else and

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON AMATHILA

resist coming to Parliament. The Quality of lawmaking here will also go down, therefore, let us try and be serious. Honourable Kaiyamo was saying that until such time that you come to Parliament as a backbencher, you will not understand and appreciate some of the things and it is very true, but I am not saying everybody in the Executive does not understand. However, sometimes when people come here and they see the privileges of backbenchers; that is when they say; “*no, no, no, this is not for me*”. We are a poor country and that is true, and our people expect us to look after them as well. We, however, have to be strong in order to look after our people and that is where our Budget next time, Comrade Speaker, have to include most of the things that we are talking about.

The Parliamentary Service Commission is something that has been talked about many times over so that we can look at some of these privileges that we are supposed to have. Honourable Mutorwa made some beautiful proposal about the Privileges and the Standing Rules and Order Committees, maybe we can start there, but we can only start there if we agreed, if all of us in this House accept that something needs to be done and not if we are divided; with some Members thinking this way and the others that way. The other day, there was a situation where the Police apparently regarded Members of Parliament who are backbenchers as not Honourable or VIPs. (Interjections)

HON MEMBER: No, that has been withdrawn.

HON AMATHILA: Has that been withdrawn? I do not know where the Rule or the Law actually emanates from those, but they are the little things that divides Members of Parliament, not only on the Party basis alone, but we are supposed to be united in agreeing that we need to do this because we believe that is the solution to our problems, if we do not, obviously we will continue bickering and talking until Jesus comes.

On that note, Comrade Deputy Chairperson, the oversight function of our

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

Parliament is so critical, for instance, I am heading the Committee on Economics, Natural Resources and Public Services; what does Public Service Administration means? The Committee is supposed to look in the management, the administration of each and every State apparatus, we have never done that, we do not have the capacity, the skills and the time, let alone the resources. When we call a Minister or Member of the Executive to come and give account to the Committee, it is very easy for the Minister or whoever to run away with the whole show because you are elected on the basis of the trust that the electorate has in you and not on the basis of your skills, is that the same with the Ministers? At least the Ministers have assistants, secretaries, etcetera, if you go to my office now, you can look at the heaps of documents on my table. I do not even have a skill of sorting them out because I do not have somebody to help me and at my age, it is just unbearable.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson, this is the little contribution that I wanted to make. Let us all get united and agree that something need to be done before we can achieve something. I thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. In my view, this Debate is one of the most fascinating Debates in Parliament and as it has been said by the previous speakers, it takes place every year, for the past few years and only during the Budget time. What fascinates me most is the fact that it only takes place during the Budget time and during that time all of us are exasperated by the situation and the question that comes to my mind is; who is this person that is supposed to have done his, if every Member of Parliament finds this undesirable? Who is it that was supposed to make sure that we start off the programme and it is put forward for funding?

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

Maybe that is what we should agree today on and say with regard to a); so and so is to do 1,2,3 so and so can during the course of the year in good time do what they are supposed to do. Otherwise, like one of our Colleague said here, we are just frustrating ourselves for nothing because I personally think that, when we are in agreement that something needs to be done, we ought to have adopted a programme. (Intervention)

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: I am terribly sorry to disrupt you, Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, but I was fascinated by your dilemma and I want to share information on top of your information, because the atmosphere here is as if there is nothing you can do. Somebody asked; “*where does the power lie?*” I want to share information that the simplest thing we can do is that the Committee on Privileges sits down, make a check list of all these problems, take these problems to the Prime Minister so that he can make a Cabinet Memorandum and let Cabinet now make a decision at the policy level. That is the information that I want to share with you. Thank you.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much. The former Prime Minister has made an offer, but I found myself perplexed because I thought that as Members of Parliament, when it comes to what needs to be done in order to strengthen the work of Parliament, we needed to find the time and identify all those things that need to be done and agree upon them and make sure that they are incorporated into the Programme that would be presented for...(Intervention).

HON DINGARA: May I ask a small question and also provide some information? As the Minister of Finance is speaking, she is answering the question that I asked earlier on; “*where is the power in this country?*” Most of the Parliaments where we were sent by the Speaker to do research and find out how things work; are equipped with professionals who follow

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

the Debates in Parliament and know exactly what must be done and what processes should be followed in order to avoid repetition, year after year. Whatever we deliberate on in Parliament here is just recorded and finish. For example, in Kenya if a Member of Parliament proposes something, he/she just go to the division of Legal Services and ask; “*did you hear what they said?*” They will draft a proposal based on the specific Debate, bring it in the process like Honourable Angula was proposing and a solution would be found. However, in our case, it is just recorded in books and filed.

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

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, Comrade. You posed a question and I think you answered it yourself. However, the question that I am trying to pose is; even with the staff members, something must be done by somebody amongst us so that the staff become available, but what we do with regard to the appropriate staffing structure that we need for Parliament is, we do not take any concrete action to ensure that that comes about, we only talk about it. The then question arises; who is suppose to make sure that the staff who are supposed to be taking note and make sure that we can have this and that done, are there? That is where the challenge is and it definitely cannot be the Minister of Finance because there must be a Programme which must be presented for funding. However, if there is no Programme; Agenda for Change has not been presented for funding, it is not part of NDP3, it was never part of NDP2, NDP1, NDP4 or MTEF, then it becomes difficult for it to find its way into the Budget.

The point that I am trying to make is that we should not wait until the Budget Debate to feel sorry for ourselves, but we are supposed to take concrete actions to make sure that we can put forth what we think ought

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

to be done to ensure that Parliament can implement its work effectively and I think the former Prime Minister helped us out there by saying that, we ought to designate some Members amongst us, to, with time, sit down and articulate those needs and forward them to those institutions that could help us to make sure that our aspirations are realised. However, I just want to make it clear that, as far as I can recall, there has never been any proposal for funding research staff for Parliament that has been denied funding. Such a proposal was never made and there can never be such funding as long as such proposal does not exist.

The second point that relates to remuneration and benefits of Members of Parliament has already been made by the previous speakers. We also just talked about this here; we are advised that there are structures that deal with these issues. Until these issues have been dealt with by those structures, they can also not be addressed in the Budget unfortunately because the Ministry of Finance is like a Finance Department of an institution which will only provide for those things that have been agreed to. Therefore, until that agreement has been there (intervention).

HON KAZENAMBO: I am terribly sorry to interrupt my beloved sister and Comrade. She is honestly, as people say, *hitting the nail on the head* and this includes Comrade Angola as well. We are saying that, as long as the system does not have any mechanism to follow up on which structure should talk to which structure, we will talk and talk every year, because there is no system and structure that says that we are following up on this point. This has been the problem and that is why you are *hitting the nail on the head*.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much. It now means that when those issues have been brought to the attention of the appropriate structures and they have been agreed to, there will be a revised structure for the Parliamentary Secretariat or however we call it and then

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

those staff members who are in place would then include resources that would be required in order to implement the structure in the Budget request for Parliament. It is not possible just to say; “*we need 5 researchers*” and then we put money in the Budget because there is no post of a researcher on the establishment of the Secretariat of Parliament.

I now move on to the issue of remuneration and all the benefits; whether cash benefits or tools of trade, things we need to use in order to carry out our work. These are also not just things to be budgeted for, when the Ministry of Finance includes allocations for transportation of Members of the Executive, for example, it is not only because a Ministry requested that we should budget for a vehicle, but because there is a decision that says; “*a Minister is entitled to this type of transportation*”. Then the Line Ministry will now say; “*in line with that decision, this is how much it will cost to acquire the transport facilities for the office*”. It would, therefore, mean that if the mode of transportation or other benefits of Members of Parliament are not adequate, we also need to discuss them as benefits and not just present them for funding. Otherwise when they are just presented for funding, the official that deals with the Budget would say; “*where is the decision that states that this should be provided to this office*”, that is the challenge. It goes back again to the point that was made by the former Prime Minister that the principles have to be discussed and agreed, the implementation modalities have to be determined and then the budgetary provisions would be made. (Intervention)

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: On a Point of Order, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. May I ask the Honourable Minister a small question? Under which Line Ministry do the Members of Parliament belong? Do they belong under the Secretary to Cabinet?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: No, Parliament is an Organ of the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON PROF KATJAVIVI

State which is independent and equal to other Organs of the State. In terms of budgeting, there is a Vote that is designated for the National Assembly and the National Council and funding that is earmarked for the activities of the Chambers of Parliament are provided for under those Votes, therefore, they are not under another Vote, but have their own Votes. The question can be further clarified if more clarity is needed. As far as the relation to the Ministry of Finance is concerned, that only exist to the extent of the Appropriation Bill as it is presented in Parliament and in regard to how the funding for this institutions are channelled; they are channelled through Votes, one Vote established for the National Assembly and the other for the National Council.

The point that I am emphasising is that we may have legitimate concerns, but if we continue to just raise them on the Floor of Parliament during the Budget Debate, it is not going to take us anywhere, but to only frustrate ourselves. We, therefore, have to take a route that would help us to ensure that there is something that eventually comes out of the discussions that are going on here. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Professor Katjavivi.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I never intended to speak, but because of the few comments that have been made, I felt that I should maybe make a small contribution. I think the expression of concerns that we heard in this House is really justified. There are reasons why some of these concerns are being expressed and put on the Table.

A number of Members spoke about the Agenda for Change and there is some hysteria about that. There was a feeling that it was absolutely necessary to strengthen the Legislative Organ of the State. Over a number

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON PROF KATJAVIVI

of years we have seen the fact that we have gone through some changes from the humble beginnings to the point where we are today. We are talking about the necessity to build capacity in order to strengthen the role of Parliament and we all agree to that and we say that we must continue striving to improve the working conditions of men and women who work in Parliament.

We are simply saying that we also need to find ways and means of increasing the role of Parliament in terms of making sure that it is able to exercise its oversight responsibilities and to do that, we need to adopt to changes that are taking place around the worlds. We have been to various Parliaments and have seen how men and women who work for Parliament are being compensated and so forth, in order to be able to compete. How do we do that? In order to do that we need to implement some of the measures that we have identified. (Intervention).

HON T MUSHELENGA: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to ask the Honourable Member a question and also provide some information. Honourable Chief Whip, I have been sitting here listening to the Members' deliberations and did not really want to say something, but shored up by the Honourable Minister of Finance's insistence that we should not only discuss this during the Budget Debate. Is what we discuss during the Budget Debate not relevant and, therefore, should be discarded? Is there nobody capturing what we are discussing here for action and implementation? Thank you.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson. That question is not really address to me. All I can say is that, it is a pity that you missed the opportunity to raise the issue with the previous speaker who happened to be the Minister of Finance.

I was simply going along the comment made by my good friend,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON VAN DER WALT

Honourable Amathila and I just want echo some of the sentiments he expressed earlier. Those of us who have been observing the work of Parliament here and some of the services provided by some of our staff, noticed the fact that we are not able to hire and retain the services of those men and women as they come and go and there must be a reason why this is happening. Maybe the time has come for us and in order to strengthen the capacity of Parliament, we need a competent team of workers who can serve the needs of Parliament. How do we go about doing that? At the moment we have been able to identify ways and means of doing that and that would include the idea of having a Parliamentary Service Commission which Honourable Ben Amathila referred to. These are some of the measures that have been identified as part and parcel of strategies that are aimed at taking the Agenda for Change forward. I agree that after the Debate on the Budget we should set aside time to look at some of the things that are outstanding and need to be done and bring them before the House, debate them and find a solution to some of the challenges that have been identified right now, during the course of the Debate. Among them should be the Parliamentary Service Commission, which I feel is an important instrument that will help us be in the position to hire the right people who will serve the work of Parliament. Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I rest my case.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Van der Walt.

HON VAN DER WALT: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also did not want to say something on this Vote, but I have listened carefully and do not know why we have to run around. I have listened to the former Prime Minister who is now the Minister of Defence, Honourable Angula. We are talking about Cabinet whilst Cabinet is in front of us. The *big canons* are here! We are sitting with the entire Cabinet here except the President.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON MOONGO

We are here for making the Laws of this country and to look after each other. If we can look after each other, we can look after the Nation. Being a businessman, I made a couple of calculations here and I worked out that an extra N\$35 million a year will suffice to avail vehicles for us as Members of Parliament and to ensure that we have sufficient staff. I may not be a hundred percent right, but I have made some calculations.

The point I want to make is that I do not know why we are wasting our time on this while we are sitting with Cabinet in front of us, and the only person who is not here is the President. Therefore, let us make a decision, the Committee of Privileges can discuss this and approach our Prime Minister who is unfortunately not here at this moment and he can take it further to the Cabinet Members who are all here, Cabinet can discuss the matter, get a solution and report back for us to sort this out and enable people to do their work. I am a businessman and I am surviving, however, I do not know how some of this people survive, I am just being very honest. I love you my sister, but I am telling the truth.

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

HON MOONGO: Thank you very much. Mine is also very brief. I only want to inform the House that consultation concerning this matter was done between Parties here in Parliament already. The Presidential Commission was already given a proposal by the Standing Committee of Rules and Order. I am, therefore, with my Colleague who said here that the *power is here*, Parliament is independent, and the Speaker who is the *power*, is there, he should do something to solve the problem. The next elections are near and we will not vote for him.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable Members. Honourable Speaker the Floor is yours to reply.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. After the former Minister spoke and echoed by the subsequent Members of the House, I was ready at that point to have an opportunity to add my voice, because I agreed with everything that they were saying by way of complaining. However, the more I listened to the other contributions and particularly the reminder by Honourable Mutorwa first and then by Honourable *Legal Man*, the Special Advisor for all legal matters in the Republic to all of us, not only to the President, but the State as a whole, I changed my mind. Therefore, I am not going to answer each and every question, maybe there is a point, but this particular Budget Debate is unlike any that we ever had before. That in itself speaks to the concerns raised and some of the insights shared by the former Prime Minister and those who reminded us that we approved the recommendations of the Political Office-Bearers Commission's outcome here in this House.

I am, therefore, satisfied that the ball was sent to my court to involve the authorities of the two Committees that the Speaker presides over; the Standing Committee on Rules and Orders and Committee on Privileges and that we do what the former Prime Minister said; draw up a case and point out what we complained about and what we want to support. I was a Minister and became Prime Minister and quite obviously my conditions of service of the Speaker as I am and even my conditions of service as Minister, let alone for Prime Minister, are different and the question is why? Especially in my case, I do not know why we left out the words; Three Equal Branches of the State that is; the Executive, the Legislative and Judiciary, but for some reason that I was one of the drafters of the Constitution it will have to equal out.

Therefore, I have on my own grounds as the Speaker probably a much bigger complaint than the complaints that you have made. If I am not

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 03
HON DR GURIRAB

only the Head of the National Assembly but also that of the National Council as the Speaker of Parliament, why did my conditions of service change so drastically? Those who were Ministers before and who are now backbenchers can see the difference as what Honourable Kazenambo was speaking to, what is the difference? The ball has thus been kicked towards me to convene the two bodies that I preside over that it will be the authority of the Parliamentary Committees to make that case, not my case, but the case of the backbenchers.

It is true, however, when we had the caucus of the Party that I belong to – the Ruling Party, for the people who are looking after us, the security Police people, the information was that, except for the Speaker, and I do not know whether my Colleague the Deputy Speaker was also included and maybe one or two other people are VIPs and the rest of you are not. It was left to the Prime Minister, the Speaker and the Chief Whip to sort this out, because it is not correct.

I am not going to take on each of the questions raised, but I am satisfied that we found a way out, listening to the former Prime Minister and the Legal Advisor, not only to the President, but to the Government, and to Honourable Mutorwa, to maybe be sensitive about the Constitution, but if decisions that made, like the Political Office-Bearers Commission's Report that came here, where not all of us were satisfied, but we accepted it, therefore, this is not the place *d'Accord* to entertain this kind of discussion. Though I could not prevent myself from listening to the Honourable Members, I can, however, not join the discussion the way that I would have wanted to do in the beginning, therefore, that is my response to all the questions raised.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Any Objections. Agreed to.

Vote 11 – “**NATIONAL COUNCIL**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Any Objections? Agreed to.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON IILONGA

Vote 28 “**ELECTORAL COMMISSION**” put of Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I supported Vote 03, Vote 11 and now also support Vote 28. On Vote 28, I just want to comment on the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Registration Kits. Yes, we amended the Law in 2009, but as we listen to activities that are taking place around the world, there are always problems where such facilities are used. Electronic Voting Machines were recently used in Kenya and they were forced to revert to manual as many things went missing. I just came from Brazil two days ago and I am afraid because of the ICT program which we were shown. Whatever you do electronically you share with those who have ICT skills. Just like when it comes to cell phone banking were you say; “*transfer such amount to Iilonga*” and it is transferred electronically causing problems at the end.

The last Paragraph on Page 3 of the Motivation Speech of Vote 28, continuing to the first Paragraph on Page 4 states that the procurement process of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) have been completed and the ECN only needs to purchase consumables and other accessories necessary for the smooth operation of the EVM and Voter Registration Kits, I would like to find out from Comrade Speaker whether these accessories are computers or will these EVMs just run independently without being attached to computers? Because if they are attached to computers, no one can tell me that you are much safer than when you operate manually. Therefore, you either operate using both electronic and manual systems in order to be on the safe side. India, from where we purchase these facilities also uses them but only in few Provinces, others refused. That is why I am saying, we must be very careful whenever we deal with ICT one should know that you are not secure, but even more vulnerable because it can be operated by somebody who is not even in Namibia as long as there is a connection electronically. That is why I said that I was afraid, because if you look at that program, you would not even want to speak through the cell phone, because it does not help whether it

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON IILONGA

is switched off. (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: May I ask Honourable Iilonga a question? My question is about Oshakati, we are talking about Vote 28 and the big complainants are those of the empty chairs. We do not know if they are going to talk about taking us to Court or if they are going to cancel it altogether. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Please go ahead, Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. To conclude, this program that I am talking about is a commercial program; people demonstrate how it works and sell it. They even showed us how Mali and France communicate and share information. They first exchange cell phone and fax communication while you are listening and whatever comes to you a duplicated message go there. I deliberately put a question; “*what happened to the Electronic Voting Machine?*” The only thing is that, as long as it is attached to a computer, anything is possible.

I just want us to be on alert and not to think that using Electronic Voting Machines is a solution. It could create more problems than solutions because things can be completely hidden and one cannot trace it rather than if it was manual. I thank you and support the Vote.

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

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAHOLO

HON NAHOLO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I am also on the same page with Honourable Ilonga, my focus is also on the Electronic Voting Machines as per Page 3 of the Motivation Speech by the Honourable Speaker.

I speak on behalf of the electorate and they want me to say the following: *“Voting is a Fundamental Right and is the heart of democracy, it is, therefore, of vital importance that there is trust in all citizens that during the election, each vote is recorded and counted with accuracy and impartiality”*. The main purpose of announcing election results in any election is not only to announce the winner but also to convince the losers that they have genuinely lost based on honesty and transparent, free and fair competition. All citizens should, therefore, be ascertained before election takes place that everything in the election process will be based on the principles of truth, honesty and integrity. (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Point of Information. We are in the Second Reading and not in the First Reading where we can go point by point. On Saturday there is a commemoration of SWAPO, please come and see how big SWAPO is.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Naholo, please make your point.

HON NAHOLO: Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, my position concentrates on the usage of EVMs in the upcoming general election in the country. I must, therefore, say that there is a general fallacy that the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are the best instruments to ensure free and fair elections; unfortunately this illusion has also gained momentum in Namibia as well, to the extent that some have

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAHOLO

blindly spoken in favour of these machines without considering the practical problems that will face us when using those machines. Even though it looks good on the surface, to be seen as progressing well in the field of Information Technology as a country, the truth is that Namibia is not yet ready in terms of infrastructural capacity to use the Electronic Voting Machines. The following are the severe disadvantages I see in using those machines:

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Member, you can ask a question or make reference to the speech.

HON NAHOLO: I am coming to that. I know there are advantages, but I will postpone those advantages for the time being until everybody is probably convinced that the time has truly arrived for Namibia to start using such machines, but not now or in the 2014 election. Let me now deal with the disadvantages and I just want to begin where my *Mbushe* has ended:

- It is common knowledge that the EVMs like any other computers, can be infected with viruses or exposed to hacking – which is getting unauthorised access to information in a computer and they can as well be physically manipulated.
- The EVM software itself is not safe because all source codes used in the machines should at least be known by somebody. How do you then trust people you do not even know?
- It is not only the software that is not safe, but if the hard drive is infected with viruses, it cannot be replaced easily and as a result some information may be lost.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAHOLO

- Experience confirms that the motherboard, their microcontrollers and all microprocessors can be manipulated by any highly qualified computer software technician, which manipulations can take place without being detected by the machine itself or anybody else. Hacking can even take place before and after the elections to alter the election results. Like most electronic devices, the EVM information can also be accessed by using external devices, it is a matter of inserting a proper chip with the strongest virus program like the Trojan horse and within less than 3 minutes you can already access the information or any particular data can be destroyed.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Naholo, we are not at the general discussion, we are busy with the Committee Stage where you have to ask some questions on the speech.

HON NAHOLO: I am addressing an issue in the Motivation Speech and that is the EVM.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Go ahead, but come to the point.

HON NAHOLO: I am building the case so that at the end of the day I can say; *“Yes, I support the Vote or I do not support the Vote”*.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAHOLO

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Naholo, please sit down first I would like to explain something. Committee Stage is not general, but specific. Therefore, you must make reference to either the Budget document or the speech of the Speaker, please go ahead, but be specific; your time is five minutes.

HON NAHOLO: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, let me make it shorter. The computer chips can also be tempered with, before the election in order to make all kinds of (intervention).

HON DINGARA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise on a Point of Order. I feel you are being unfair because Honourable Lucia Witbooi was stopped on a similar issue, but you are allowing the other Member to continue, you must also allow Honourable Witbooi to finish reading her contribution, unless you are saying that his is better than that of Honourable Witbooi's.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Naholo, detail please.

HON NAHOLO: The computer chips can also be tempered with, before the election in order to make all kinds of dirty tricks such as programming the chip to accept only a particular number of votes and, therefore the rest of the votes should be transferred to a chosen candidate who should be declared a winner even though he/she is not the true winner. Therefore, the EVMs can be programmed to predetermine a winner. (Intervention)

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, on a Point of Order, may I ask Honourable Naholo a question? Honourable Naholo, The Law we are quoting makes provision that every Political Party which intend to or which take part in the election process, needs to have their observers. What is wrong for the RDP not to have your observers there to backup that what you are saying now really takes place and complain if there is anything that is not right? Why can you not do that *my swaer*?

HON NAHOLO: Thank you very much. I was just about to address your point. What I am saying is that the country is not ready now to use these machines, because of the lack of knowledge. A computer can be instructed by a human being (intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Time is over. Honourable Ncube.

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I just thought that after all the complaints and requests that we have made to the Electoral Commission, it is time for us to reciprocate what they have done and also give credit where it is due.

On Page 4, point 2: **Voter Education and Information Dissemination**, the ECN recognised the need for gender and disability mainstreaming in voter and civic education. We all know that gender and disability are crosscutting issues and they have acknowledged that.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, it is, therefore, my greatest pleasure to see that the Commission is championing the course for inclusivity of all citizens by ensuring that the whole electoral

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NEHOVA

process is accessible to people with disabilities, they, therefore, need to be applauded for the fact that the Commission has also undertaken to design operational and communication strategies that ensures access, understanding and active participation for all Namibians irrespective of their social backgrounds.

Honourable Chairperson, I do hereby salute and congratulate the Commission for such a noble effort. With this humble submission, I support the Vote wholeheartedly, without any reservation.

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

HON NEHOVA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Since Independence, we have been voting manually and I think we were doing well. We are informed by the Commission on households that the population of Namibia is only 2.1 million and, therefore, the voting population is between seven and eight hundred thousand. Why should we spend millions to buy voting machines that cannot be trusted, just to count seven hundred thousand votes? (Intervention)

HON VAN DER WALT: With all due respect, our SWAPO Party decided that some of the Opposition Parties cannot count and we would like to make it much easier to prevent Court cases in the future because of the fact that some people do not have money to do their work at the polling stations. They then come up with all this excuses and on top of that, they cannot count, therefore, all these put our country in an embarrassing position. Thank you.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NEHOVA

HON NEHOVA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the counting is done by the Electoral Commission officials so there is no problem there. What I am saying is that it is very simple to count seven hundred thousand votes. (Intervention)

HON MWANINGANGE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I did not want to intervene, however, I want to give Honourable Nehova and the rest, very concrete and authentic information.

For the last ten years, some Colleagues here and I have been observing in most international elections in SADC and beyond. All neighbouring countries that have elections are far from us in terms of manual voting or counting, why should Namibia remain behind because for the sake of arguing that we are a small population? If Observers who are used to observing elections handled through Electronic Voting Machines come here, it will not be easy for them to make a fair judgement. We will be taking them back here to following the manual process. Let us not remain behind.

HON NEHOVA: May I continue? We were reminded here by Honourable Ilonga and I also followed that in the media too. These Machines did not work in Kenya, I do not remember any other country. However, with countries like Kenya and South Africa, it will take more time for them to count, but in the case of Namibia, why should we use machines to count six or seven hundred thousand people? To make things worse, if there is a problem with the machines, there will be no Courts, because one cannot ask the machine. Therefore, in the event that the machine makes a mistake, that will be the end. I need further explanations as to why these machines are needed. I rest my case.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAMOLOH

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

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I always speak for progress and history has told us that human beings always fear changes for the better. When Galileo Galilei told the church that the centre of the universe is the sun, he was prosecuted because the people did not understand; they thought the earth was the centre of the universe.

When we speak about EVMs, the fear is always there because they failed in Kenya and elsewhere. Why do you still travel by plane if you hear about plane crashes? The EVMs are made by human beings and the counting of our local votes here in Namibia also go through the computer. If we can manipulate the EVMs, we can also manipulate the manual process (intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, may I ask my Comrade General a question? Comrade Ho-Chi-Minh, when you have Colleagues in the Opposition like the RDP who are used to Court cases, do you not think that the reason why they do not want the use of the Electronic Voting Machines is perhaps because they will not be able to take the Machines to Court? Perhaps they are already contemplating taking us to Court before the elections.

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you very much. They said it themselves. It was just said here that you cannot take a machine to Court. However, what I want to say is that other people can

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAMOLOH

fail, but we can always perfect our systems. (Intervention)

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

May I pose a question to the Minister? It is a factual question; I know that we passed the *Electoral Amendment Act* in 2009 here. With the confusion of independence of the Electoral Commission, which we do not question, but am I right to understand that the administration of the *Electoral Act* is under the Ministry of Regional, Local Govern and Housing? If that is correct, will the Minister probably assist me and the House? When we effected that *Amendment Act*, did we abolish the manual or is the amended version an option of manual or electronic? If that is in the Act, as the House that has passed this Law here, have we then made a final decision as to which one we are opting for? I am asking this question because when you read on Page 3 of the statement by the Honourable Speaker, which he presented on behalf of the Electoral Commission, this statement is the definitive, meaning that those that are executing the provision of the Law – the Electoral Commission, are going for the electronic option, maybe we have decided that it is electronic. If we have not made that decision, I think we are going to be in trouble, but Honourable Minister, the question really is, what is in that Amendment?

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

You are asking me now like I am on the Floor, presenting the Vote, but what I can remember is that when this Law was passed, we were saying that we will prepare the voters through education while we are running the manual system and we would test the EVM during the regional and other elections like by-elections and so forth, to check if it is working properly.

We have already made a decision when we passed the Law and now we want to kill it during the Budget Debate. I think what we need to do is just to prepare ourselves instead of going two steps back again by saying we do not want EVMs.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON NAMOLOH

HON DINGARA: Just a small question, Honourable Minister. I want to find out from the Honourable Minister, whether my understanding from what Honourable Nehova said here is the same as yours. Honourable Nehova said that the machine must not come, otherwise they will not go to Court, do I understand it correctly that they were planning on going to Court after the elections, but if the machine is here, it will prevent them from going to Court? Because they have already decided that they will go to Court whatever happens.

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: I said it earlier that; Honourable Nehova said you cannot take a machine to Court. He said it himself, I did not put it in his mouth. It, therefore, implies that they are planning to go to Court before the results of the elections. They always think that whether the elections are free and fair they must go to Court. I think the understanding is that, whether we bring in machines that would clear everything, they hope that the results would be rigged because they are saying the computer chips will be manipulated to provide other results. At the same time the ballot papers will also be manipulated we, therefore, do not know which system to use now because they are against all the systems. (Interjections) If we use manual you will end up going to Court again.

Honourable Members, I think we should accept not to go back, we must instead look at what other people are doing for the benefit of us all. (Intervention)

HON KAZENAMBO: On a Point of Information, I am sorry to interrupt my General, but as a foot soldier, I must just read the forewarning to always be on alert. When I listened to Comrade Naholo and him being a former soldier, now followed by Honourable Nehova, I get a premonition that something is going to happen next year. Comrade Naholo, please

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON HAUSIKU

leave our trees in peace, do not touch SWAPO trees and do not fight over SWAPO trees! That is my appeal.

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I want to say that we should overcome fear with confidence in most cases (intervention)

HON NEHOVA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I would like to ask the Minister whether he is trying to answer the question that I put to the Honourable Speaker here, and the question is; what is the need of using the EVMs when we can do it manually and in a better way?

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Change always comes with time. You cannot ask why. Why are we not ploughing with hooves everyday now that we have tractors? It is all about change, you used to travel on donkey carts and now you use planes and cars. We need progress, we live in the 21st century and need to do things differently, why are you speaking through the microphone and not just shouting at me? I now rest my case.

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

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON HAUSIKU

HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I did not really want to take part in this Debate, but I thought that this is an issue that needs us to reach common ground. Elections are some of those national exercises that we should not look at as Parties, but as a Nation.

As my dear brother have said there, I have also been privileged to attend two to three meetings, one in New Delhi, of which one of the issues was about electronic voting. The presenter was from India and we listened very carefully, that was a very good presentation. However, at the end of the presentation, we took time to ask questions and obtain clarifications. One of the questions I posed was how successful they have used the system in India whereupon he told us that it was a pilot project in one area only.

There is a difference between fear and caution. Nobody wants to have fear for changes, I do not think that at our age and level of leadership we can fear changes. We want and need changes, definitely. The next meeting I attended was at the old State House where these machines were introduced to us and at that time it was presented by our Electoral Commissioner who went to India, quite a number of questions were answered. Comrades, one of those questions that is very practical, you can wish it away, but there is nothing you can do, is that when you are in Omboroko it takes you three hours to travel sixty kilometres to reach your destination and there is no electricity. If your battery or machine gives in, what do you do with those people? I am sure that many of us have travelled as Parliamentarians throughout this country and we have heard many people complaining about lack of electricity and so on. That is one of the practicality that we are facing. You cannot go with this machine there and hope people will use it to vote without electricity and to depend on a battery or generator will not be a well thought out decision.

I happened to talk to my Colleague, Dalmas Otieno who was the Minister of State for Public Service in Kenya at the time and Kenya is one of the countries that is very efficient and advanced in terms of e-governance development. I asked him; “*are you sure you are going to make it with this system you are using?*” and he said; “*we are going to try*” and I

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON ESAU

wished him good luck. I am sure Mr Otieno (Dalmas) might have been on the side of those who were complaining about the machines.

We definitely want to introduce new technology, but we should also not close our eyes to the reality on the ground. Comrade Kazenambo, you were talking eloquently the other day about the lack of electricity from Rooidag Hek up to the end of Tsumkwe there. It is not only there, almost every other village do not have electricity.

These are some of the realities we should not close our eyes to. I fully support Comrade Ilonga and for the first time I am agreeing with Honourable Naholo, but not with taking the machine to Court. I also agree that we do not have fear, but have to caution ourselves and go step by step to make sure that when we introduce this machine, we introduce something that is going to work and that the majority of our people have a facility like electricity and generators to be able to vote.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson, I am sorry to have taken up your time, but I thought these are some of the things that we have to find common ground on and not to fight about who is saying what. That caution is really important. Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. First of all, I would like to register my support to Vote 28. I do understand the predicament in which some of our Members are when it comes to the introduction of new technologies.

I can recall that if you go back in history, when the machine was introduced there was a great uproar by workers then, saying that the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON ESAU

machine is taking over their jobs and they had to fight the machine. That was fear because of the introduction of the machine. The same applied in 1999, when we had to transition to the year 2000, the Y2K as they call it, which was also a factor of fear, people thought that all the systems were going to collapse. After overcoming these specific situations, we are well off. I therefore, believe that when it comes to the introduction of the EVM, it will for sure bring greater efficiencies into the voting and counting process, because time is of the essence here. (Intervention)

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: I am sorry to interrupt you; can I please ask you a quick question? What do you think is the more efficient machine, a typewriter of a word processor?

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: This is again the factor of efficiency and effectiveness; those are the two factors that need to be taken into account and the overwriting factor between efficiency and effectiveness is time and time is not always for us, but against us. We need to become more efficient in order to safe on time, it is, therefore, vital for us to introduce new technologies in terms of the EVM. I do not want to be kept in suspense for a long time, waiting for the final result of the votes that we casted. I would, therefore, want to support Vote 28 as introduced by Honourable Dr Gurirab, hence, I want to beg for the approval of this Vote. I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Speaker, the Floor is yours to reply.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 28
HON DR GURIRAB

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I start by sharing this that the additional amount requested follows the 2009's *Electoral Amendment Act* which provides for the use of Electronic Voting Machines by the ECN. The procurement process of the EVM has been completed and paid for in full, however, the ECN will still need to purchase consumables and other accessories necessary for the smooth operation of the EVM's Voter Registration Kits (VRKs). Thus, the ECN must make the necessary provision for the countrywide training and implementation Programmes of the EVMs and VRKs. This machine procured by Namibia, has never been used in any part of the world except in India where the machine was purchased, therefore, any comparison of the Namibian machine with any other machine, other than that of India is misleading.

The fact remains that the Namibian EVM has been used in India, where over seven hundred million people participated in the election in one day without a hitch or any Court challenges. The ECN is starting with the preparations for the eventual roll out of the Electronic Voting Machine during the 2014 Presidential and National Assembly elections. The full implementation of the EVM will be preceded by comprehensive training, voter education and publicity.

The questions raised here can be summarised as follows: The EVM consumables and machines operates on basic technology, not on a computer and not even attached to a computer. In India, the machine is used throughout the country. Political Parties' representatives were sent to India to observe the operation of the machine in practice. Parliamentarians will receive a demonstration of the EVM so that they can make up their own mind. The EVM is not a computer at all and utilises basic technology like a calculator. That is the information provided by the ECN. I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Any Objections? Agreed to.

Vote 09 – “**FINANCE**” put for Discussion. Honourable *Katusha*.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON ANGULA

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you. I know that we have been sleeping here for a long time and for the senior citizens like myself it is not good, however, I would like to make a small contribution.

I first want to thank the Minister. On Page 5, she is saying that she is going to change the Law to enforce transfer duty on the sale of shares in companies, holding properties and mineral rights. I think that is a move in the right direction, because all along we have experienced a situation whereby mineral rights are sold and transferred outside the jurisdiction of Namibia. I hope this Law will now ensure that the transfer of rights or shares outside the Namibian jurisdiction will invite taxation.

Secondly, I am also happy that in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework, the Minister indicated that the imposition of tax on the exportation of raw materials has improved our revenue collection and that is to be commended.

I further wish to comment on few issues regarding the supply-side of the Budget and I want to focus on the fact that diamonds are making a significant contribution to our Budget. Here you have the tax on diamond mining companies on Page 8 of the estimates of revenue and expenditure. You have the revenue collection on Page 8 and on the same Page you have the company tax on diamond mining companies that has resulted in N\$1 billion plus. If you have regard to NAMDEB, we were able to collect another N\$82 million from shares and close to N\$100 million from the Diamond Trading Company while from diamond royalties we were able to collect more than N\$600 million. However, if you come to all mining companies, whether copper, uranium, zinc or gold mining, they were only able to contribute N\$59 million in total, of course one can add the royalties which attracted N\$37 million as a contribution. The point I am making is that there must be something wrong with regard to the revenue we are collecting from the other mining companies and I can only relate it to an article which appeared in the *Southern Times* saying that African countries have been losing money through schemes that are initiated by mining companies, especially the schemes like transfer pricing. I am asking myself as to how do we deal with these kinds of problems, because I am quite sure that there are things going on which we do not know,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON ANGULA

which prevents other mining companies to make more or less similar contributions to our revenue just like the diamond companies are doing. There must be something going on which we perhaps do not understand.

I want to give an example; the other day I was talking to one researcher about this issue of companies using all schemes to avoid taxation. I put him on the spot and asked him to give me an example upon which he responded by saying, if you take AREVA which bought the mining rights in Trekkopje, the transaction took place outside the Namibian jurisdiction and we never benefitted anything as a country, but the rights to mine uranium at Trekkopje have been transferred. That was the first thing; a transaction taking place outside Namibia and we do not benefit anything. AREVA belongs to the French Government. They came here, as I am told, they borrowed money from their parent company and put a water desalination plant that never worked and then mining infrastructure, just to give us hope which is neither working. As they borrowed money, the parent company was demanding that they should pay back. This gentleman told me that AREVA went to the Bank of Namibia to make an application to be allowed to transfer money to France in foreign currency, but apparently they brought Rands here initially and not Euros or Dollars. They brought Rands, which is a legal tender into Namibia, but now they wanted to be given foreign currency. I do not know how the Bank of Namibia treated them, however the point I am making is that; how can a company in its own moral consideration try to deprive Namibia of foreign currency, knowing that it never brought any foreign currency here? Therefore, there are these schemes that are by all means being concocted by these companies to avoid taxation. Meanwhile we will be left with holes after they have mined and the future generation will come to ask us, what did you do with the minerals that were scooped out of these holes if Namibia is still underdeveloped? I am, therefore, encouraging the Honourable Minister to do more in order to unravel some of these schemes.

The custom smelter is not even paying a single cent to Namibia because Ongopolo which owns this smelter, unfortunately our Colleagues of the Trade Union were also part of Ongopolo, applied for EPZ status claiming that they were manufacturing. When custom smelters bought Ongopolo,

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON IILONGA

that regime was already in place and they just bought it as it is, saying; “*well that is the regime we found here*”, therefore, we are not going to pay tax, meanwhile they are polluting. Therefore, Honourable Minister, I think we need to look at some of these things and impose strict measures to make sure that our minerals optimally benefit our people. That is my contribution. Thank you.

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. This is just some advice to, especially the Treasury side of the Ministry of Finance.

Comrade Minister, we are suffering and this information really needs to be known by the people out there. We pay for the cars that we are given to use, they are not ours, they are not scheme cars and we only pay tax. Comrade Minister, we owe the Government a lot of thousands that came as the result of negligence of the officials. Nobody ever informed me that in an event where you are given a car, the value of the car has to be transferred to your salary for tax deduction purposes. We owe thousands, Comrades.

The worst is the housing allowance; for eight years you pay somebody an amount that he/her is not supposed to receive, putting that person in a dilemma because that person budgets according to the amount left after tax deduction. Suddenly, after eight years, one receives a letter stating that you owe an amount close to N\$100,000.00. Eight years are too many. If you do not pay the Government early enough, you are charged daily interest or penalties but when Government owes us, we do not charge them anything. Comrade Minister, what are we going to do so that we can also be compensated because we lose? (Intervention)

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON IILONGA

HON T MUSHELENGA: Point of Information. Comrade *Ekanda*, you may not be aware, but I was served with a letter stating that I owe Government N\$33,000.00, after almost a year when I ceased to be a Member of Parliament and, again another letter stating that I owe N\$9,000.00, adding those two amounts gives N\$40,000.00 plus. However, I tried by all means to find out whether I really owed that much. After all the efforts that I have made, only last week, when I went to pay, did I receive a statement stating that I only owe N\$3,831.00. It is a long story that I do not have to tell now, but even those who served me with the letter saying that I owe so much money told me then that Government owes me. However, being a patient person, I did not really confront Government because I knew if there is some truth, it will come out and it came out.

Therefore, do not be shocked by the N\$100,000.00 that you are served with as it may not be a true reflection of what you owe to the Government. However, I also want to say to the officials working in the SWAPO Party-led Government of the Republic of Namibia that, whether they are SWAPO members or not, they should please not frustrate the leadership of the SWAPO-led Government. This was a frustration to me, but I am equally happy that it was not a true reflection of what I owed the Government.

Honourable Minister, please talk to your officials to do their work and not to punish the Members and subject them to unnecessary shock. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Mushelenga for this very important information. I urge the officials to do justice, if they find that there is something wrong with my account, approach me instead of piling up everything, just to come later (intervention)

HON WITBOOI: I have some information that I want to share with Honourable Iilonga. For all the years, I never received a statement showing

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KAZENAMBO

that I owe Government in taxes, but when I came to Parliament, I received a statement and I was shocked and after the presentation by the Ministers of Finance, I made time and went to Ms Le Roux. I made an effort to collect all the documents she required, because she wanted to know about each and every insurance policy indicated on my payslip. I am now relieved. For your information, therefore, take a day or two off from your busy schedule and work on your tax issue. Maintain constant contact with Ms Le Roux, either telephonically or you can even go there physically.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you very much for the very important information. I just wanted to make you aware that we have those problems, Comrade Permanent Secretary, over there, please let us improve and do not punish us.

On the last point, I just want to support Comrade *Katusha with omutse gwateka*, on the issue of minerals. We are really taken for a ride in terms of our minerals, therefore, let us work hard on the Amendments or even revamp the Law. In the case of AREVA, if they brought South African Rands here, it must be returned to them in Rands and they must also be charged for using our officials. Investors never do us favours here as they are the ones who are benefitting while we are suffering and dying of hunger. With those few words, I support Vote 09. Thank you.

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

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I am going to talk on two issues contained in the Minister's Statement. One is on Page 14 regarding: **Support to Public Procurement Administration**; here you are saying; "*Tender Board is in a*

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KAZENAMBO

process of developing a database system". I am talking on the Tender Board and also appreciate the issue of requirements which you also mentioned on another page.

Comrade Minister of Finance, Comrade Deputy Chairperson, as a country and a Nation we need to address the issue of Tender Board as a matter of urgency. The image of our Tender Board is not doing us a service at all, it has reached a critical stage and this reform process needs to be expedited because the Nation is beginning to lose confidence in our procurement process. This is not good for the members of the Tender Board, the honourable men and women of integrity. The Nation is now starting to say that the people in the Tender Board are corrupt, some are called *10%*, we do not know the truth hereof, but the image we are getting is that our procurement process is in disrepute. This issue is affecting us seriously, because, unfortunately due to the current state of technological development of our country, we are sourcing many of the services that we are procuring from the international market.

Then comes the issue of Court cases after Court cases; a tender project is tendered through a legal process, however, tomorrow the companies are in Court, this is tarnishing the image of this Nation, not only that, it also affect the economic development of this country and the lives of innocent people in the rural areas. Where we are saying that our aim of budgeting for this capital projects is to alleviate poverty and now Programmes and projects of serious magnitude to the development of this country are delayed because cases are being fought in Court. Comrade Minister, we need to speed up these things.

Let me not overdo it, I think my message is clear, I am appealing for the sake of all of us to the men and women who are dealing with the tender process and this Nation which is in partnership with other Nations in development, because we are not an island, to work on our image and this tender process is not doing us any service.

I am now moving to the **Financial Sector Development** on Page 6; I appreciate that the 10-year strategy for the development of the Financial

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KAZENAMBO

Sector and its corresponding action plan has been launched, I welcome this wholeheartedly. It is also talking to the market. In Paragraph 20 of the same page you are saying that; *“a review of the Financial Institutions and Markets regulatory framework was undertaken and the proposed new Bills were presented to Parliamentarians earlier this year”*, I wholehearted welcome this.

The former Prime Minister or Comrade *Katusha* as he prefers to be called has talked about financial leakages that manifest themselves in many ways. He has highlighted the issue of the Mining Sector, I will not dwell much on that, because he eloquently elaborated on that. Comrade Minister, Honourable Members of the august House, it defies logic that in the 21st century with all technological advancements, when I lose my visa card, I am referred to Johannesburg or Pretoria. I was born stubborn and will die stubborn. I participated in fighting colonialism at the young age and I hate neo-colonialism in whatever way it manifest itself. It is for me an insult that when you take your car for service, a person from Johannesburg calls to inquire about your service. It does not matter whether you are black or white; neo-colonialism is neo-colonialism. For the Financial Institutions that are operating here, do you mean that, after 23 years of Namibia's Independence, nearly 20 years after South Africa's Independence, our ANC brothers have got no respect for us to treat us as if we are a neo-colonial State? We are not!

The Financial Sector must start investing its money because they waste our time and I do not know what legacy is there when this call is made from Johannesburg. (Interjection) It can be Standard Bank or First National Bank, it is a representation of a neo-colonial appearance as far as I am concern. In the same process, you are charged for depositing or withdrawing money. (Intervention)

HON VAN DER WALT: On a Point of Information, Honourable Kazenambo what you are saying about the Financial Sector is close to my heart. If I look at the Corporate Sector in our country, the banks and retails

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KAZENAMBO

companies from South Africa, not only South Africa, how they repatriate profits out of our country, they do not leave the money here in Namibia. It is our money and it needs to stay in our country. I do not know if we can pass legislation to make sure that we benefit more.

Honourable Kazenambo, is one hundred percent right in connection with the Banking Sector. If one applies for a loan at either First National Bank Standard or NedBank, it is nearly impossible to obtain authorisation here in Namibia, your information needs to be forwarded to South Africa for decision making, where they do not even know who you are, they make a calculated decision and then come and give you whatever result. I think the time has come to revisit the Financial and Retail Sectors. Thank you.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you very. I am now moving towards concluding. What the Honourable Comrade has said is the tip of the iceberg; in fact he has gone further to elaborate what we are saying. Our trading companies bank their money here and we source many of our items from South Africa. When you move millions from Namibia, you are referred to bank managers here and I respect these managers because they help me with overdrafts, I have got no problem, and therefore, I cannot annoy them, however, with all due respect it is an insult. I am saying that I respect the Colleagues in the Banking Sector here when one needs an overdraft; I know that we are all puppets under the circumstances, that is all I can say with due respect. Like my Colleague has said, it is painful that when you move money to do a transaction where they will make a lump sum profit, the process is handled by the Namibian puppets including myself, but when it comes to a loan then it is Johannesburg or Cape Town, it is belittling. Nobody will make a decision here, including when you lose your card.

We are taken for granted, that is why I am saying, I welcome this because those of us who are born -and will die stubborn cannot put up with this neo-colonial financial state of arrangements. If it happens to the Government, can we imagine about the average ordinary citizens?

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON DINGARA

Therefore, let us speed this up, just like the procurement, so that we close the loopholes of many financial leakages. I support the Vote.

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

HON DINGARA: Thank you very much. I also stand up to support his very important Vote. Before I came to Parliament, it was announced that the Tender Board will be discussed in Parliament. I regarded myself a winner because I was going to participate in the deliberations as I was already disappointed with what was happening on the ground. I was here since 2010 and it is 2013 now, I have already concluded that this discussion will not find me here. I will probably leave without participating in fine-tuning this document. I am not complaining, I know that we are free to speak here because there are no people to act against it. I am requesting Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila to please bring it to Parliament at least before the end of next year, so that I can also make my contribution while here, there was a little bit of a delay. If it was not you I was going to say it is very much delayed, but because it is you, I am saying it was delayed a bit.

The issue I would like to comment on is on Page 12 concerning tax. I do not know if it is only experience by me alone or some of the Honourable Members as well. If one owes the Ministry of Finance on tax, the officials tell you to go to the agents so that they can clear it on your behalf, however, when you go to the agents, they complete the form in such a way that when it reaches the Ministry of Finance, you owe nothing. Many people succeed that way, but this time around I said to myself; *“since I am in Government, should I still go to agents to clear my debts?”* I have decided that; *“no, let me just owe, if I owe”* and now, every year I owe the Ministry of Finance on tax deduction and when I go to the Ministry, they do not know why I am indebted to them. They refer me to the finance division here at Parliament

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON SWARTZ

but when I come here they say it is all the same with everybody else, we do not know why you owe the Ministry of Finance. I have been accumulating that for the last three years and then I go and pay. The Ministry of Finance recalculates my tax and say it is correct, but I still owe on tax at the end of the year. I went twice to Ms Le Roux on the second floor; she checked and told me the people who will know are at our salary office at Parliament, however coming here, they also do not know. At the end, I decided to continue owing and pay. I made a comparison with other Members of Parliament who are receiving the same salary and the tax amount is the same but as Dingara, I continue to owe. I do not know where in the country to go now.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, what I am saying is that; if I were a cheat, I would go to the agents, because everybody who goes there never owes the Ministry of Finance. They asked my wife to bring all her study policies to Finance and when she did that, she now owes even more on tax. What I am trying to say is that we are actually losing because if the agent can trick the system to reverse what you owe, then something must be wrong. I know that our colleagues are working hard, but why can they not see to it that whether the agent or I complete the form, the end result is the same. Thank you and I support the Vote.

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

HON SWARTZ: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I only want to make a small contribution on Public Procurement. In order to attain the intended impact:

- there must be transparency and efficiency in Public Procurement;
- improvement and promotion of good governance;

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

- through Public Procurement Reform, enhancement of a procurement system that is accountable; and
- openness, integrity and transparency should be achieved.

Finally, procurement is one of the key aspects in the Public Financial Management and it is why raising awareness through workshops and campaigns are so important for all of us. I support the Vote and I thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Minister the Floor is yours for your reply.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much. I have to reply otherwise some Members would think it will be better to go to the agents. I would like to guarantee you that you will get some service from the Ministry of Finance whether you go to the agents or not. I thank the Honourable Members for supporting the Vote and also for the interest shown through the comments and questions raised.

The first comment was with regard to taxation of the sale of shares in companies with mineral rights. The first legislation was in fact passed already in 2011 through an Amendment to the *Income Tax Act* where we made the income derived from the sale of shares of companies with mineral right subject to taxation, that was the first Amendment that we effected and the Amendment to the *Transfer Duty Act* is going to be the second Amendment to reinforce the first Amendment that we introduced in order to strengthen the effort that we are making to ensure that we optimise contributions from our mineral resources to the fiscus.

The second comment is with regard to the contribution of diamonds to the revenue as opposed to that of other minerals. My view is that even diamonds are not contributing their optimal share. If you look at that page

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

where it is shown that the contribution from mining companies is going to be just over a billion, you will find that the contribution from non-mining companies is close to N\$4 billion. Therefore, given the fact that the economy is known to be a predominantly diamond economy, that proportion of contribution is not optimal. Part of the efforts that we are making are aimed at ensuring an optimised contribution of the Mining Sector including diamonds, which are the most lucrative resources we have as a Nation.

Why is there such a significant discrepancy between the contribution of the diamond mining and the non-diamond mining? In addition to the issue that was raised by *Honourable Angula*, first and foremost, it is on account of the different taxation rates for the diamond mining and non-mining activities. Diamond companies are taxed at 55% of the profit whereas non-diamond companies are taxed at 37%. The same goes for royalties; royalties for diamonds are higher than that of non-diamond minerals and that again, is on account of the diamond value being much higher than the that of other minerals.

With regard to some underhand dealings in the non-diamond Mining Sector, these concerns of pricing and thin capitalisation apply to all companies whether they are mining or non-mining companies and these are found out during the process of administering Tax Laws. It is for that reason that the transfer pricing and thin capitalisation counter measures are among the measures that are scheduled to be implemented under the Tax Reform Programme, which is a five-year Programme that we started with in 2010. In the coming year, 2014/2015, we will be investigating new rules for thin capitalisation which will deal with the advancement of credit from mother companies outside of the jurisdiction of Namibia to companies that are inside Namibia and transfer pricing that would now involve the inflation of prices for companies that are related to companies that are in the Namibian tax jurisdiction in order to try and curb that. However, as I said, these are problems that occur both in the Diamond and Non-diamond Sectors including the Non-mining Sector. Therefore, you will also find them in the Financial Sector, IT Sector and in every other Sector wherever you have a situation where one jurisdiction's taxation is considered to be more favourable than the other.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

With regard to the AREVA case, I do not really have the details on the side of AREVA, but what I know is that in terms of the *Foreign Exchange Act*, the Central Bank is required to ensure that, where foreign investors need to repatriate their profits or to repay foreign loans, there is an obligation on the part of the State to make sure that foreign currency is availed to enable them to do that. I do not know the details of the loans they acquired from the parent company, in what currency that was made and whether there was any violation of the *Foreign Exchange Act*, I can maybe enquire with the Central Bank because if there is any violation, the Central Bank could take corrective measures.

I do not know whether I got the comment on the smelter not making a contribution right. However, what I know is that a number of the mineral processing companies in Namibia have what we call Economic Processing Zone (EPZ) status which exempt companies from payment of any kind of taxation in terms of the *EPZ Act* that we have approved in Parliament. As you may recall, we have included in our Tax Reform Programme a review of the Tax Incentives including a review of the EPZ Regime to determine whether it will be in the national interest to continue with it, especially given that the EPZ Regime does not currently provide for a limited period of tax free Regime, it is actually a kind of perpetual situation. But until that Act has been amended, we cannot tax those companies. However, we expect to finalise that review in this current MTEF and make recommendation to Government whether it will be in our best interest to continue having a tax free dispensation or not.

With regard to vehicle taxation and the Ministers not being well advised; all allowances in terms of the *Income Tax Act* are taxed and that has been so all along. However, I know that the last time new vehicles were acquired for Ministers; it seems that there was no proper communication. Even myself, I only became aware when it was just about to be delivered, I did not have any information prior to that and I think that resulted in a situation where personnel officers in the Line Ministries did not deduct this taxes from the income of the Cabinet Ministers from the initial month until later on. That happened with almost all of us because the deduction of taxes from the salaries of individuals is not done by the tax office, but it is done by the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

employer and if the employer is the Government then it is done by the finance officers in the finance division of that specific Ministry. If the employer is a private company, it is done by the finance officer in that private company. It is only when you complete your tax return and submit it to the revenue office that the revenue office will then realise that your deductions were not right and this is when you receive these letters that say you owe the tax office this amount. The person who deducts your tax is different from the one that assesses you and what we are trying to do is to strengthen the tax education campaign and also the training of financial officers in various Ministries. We have annual training sessions and the problem that we have is of course that there is a high mobility of staff. You train this staff member and after six month that person is no longer there. Within that intervening period the new person will be doing things that may not necessarily be right. The advice that I would give to the public is to monitor their tax compliance by either coming to the Ministry of Finance or calling to ask questions where you are not clear instead of leaving it in the hands of these financial advisors who may also misunderstand certain aspects of the Law.

This was the same situation we were facing with housing allowances. The processing of the payment documentations is done by the Line Ministries themselves and up until now, we have a situation where the human resources management system is not integrated with the financial management system to the extent that the financial management system does not have information about the remuneration structure. It only has financial information and it can, therefore, happen that if there is wrong information in the file that is coming from Line Ministries, it would require human intervention into each and every file of the employee of the State in order to detect it. The good news is that work is currently ongoing to computerise the human resource management system of Government and integrate it with the financial management system. That way, every time a payment is made it is possible for the system to check what the approved pay structure is and make sure that the remuneration payment is in line with what was agreed upon and there will be no need for people to be called upon to repay monies that were paid to them.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

With regard to notifications about the individual tax payer's status from the Ministry of Finance, I can only advise that when the tax payers have queries about the assessment that come from the Ministry of Finance, they do not become distressed but approach us and present evidence to contradict the assessment that has been made by the Ministry and if that is genuine than the assessment will be revised.

On the comment that you do not owe if you use an agent, I believe that if there was a case that one has used an agent and succeeded to have his or her assessment revised that is only because there was a case for revision. If there was no case for revision, I will be interested to find out the details of that employee at the Ministry of Finance that does that because if employees engage in behaviours that are contrary to the Law, then we would want to bring the Law against them so that they are taken to account, but as far as I know the assessments are done according to established procedures in the Law and are applied regardless of whether you prepared your documents yourself or someone else has done it on your behalf.

I agree with the need to expedite the reform of the procurement system, we are doing our best to expedite that and I also agree that it has taken quite some time. We only realised after we had finalised the review initially that there were new developments that we could benefit from and we, therefore, decided to incorporate these developments so that we can keep up with the modernisation of systems around the world. However, we have finalised the Bill as I reported during the response to the Budget and it has been with the legal drafters, we have had a number of sessions with them seeking clarifications here and there and they gave us the assurance that they are soon going to finalise the Bill and we will be able to present to this House, hopefully in this calendar year still.

In terms of the new Bill, we have provided for an alternative mechanism for handling grievances where people can appeal to an appeal panel so that they do not necessarily have to go to Court and incur costs trying to get the Courts to adjudicate over their cases. I, however, also want to say that, while definitely agreeing that these allegations of corruption and inappropriate conduct at the Tender Board tarnish the image of the

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

Government, the Tender Board and of the system, I also believe that there is a silver lining to it if the case goes to Court because it means that there is an opportunity to dig deeper into the issue and it is not left at the level of allegation. If indeed, there are cases of abuse by those entrusted with the administration of the system, they will be brought to book. I, therefore, want to encourage the public, where they find unbecoming behaviours on the side of those that deal with the administration of the system, to not hesitate to bring these to the attention of the appropriate authorities so that they are dealt with accordingly.

The Bill on the Financial Institutions and Markets will soon come to Parliament, we had a briefing session for the Members of Parliament, we could unfortunately not manage to secure very good attendance from Members of Parliament, we felt that the Bill was quite complex and we wanted to give Members of Parliament an opportunity to interact with the experts, but we unfortunately only had a handful. However, the Bill will still come to the House for Members to scrutinise and panel beat it if there is any need for doing that. As part of the Financial Sector Development Strategy, we aim to establish an Ombuds Office for the Financial Sector as well as to localise the Industry in terms of ownership and management, and that would definitely lead to a situation where more decisions would be made locally rather than outside the country.

There was a comment on the export of profits; in the Financial Sector we have a requirement for pension funds and insurance companies to retain 35% of their profits locally. We recently amended the Law and regulations to make sure that the existing loopholes are closed and to also ensure that a portion of the locally retained funds goes to Greenfield Projects, which are the upcoming innovative projects with the potential for optimising economic growth and job creation. The revised regulations are almost finalised, they are with the legal drafters and I expect to gazette them hopefully before the end of the year.

I think this were all the comments.

17 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 09
HON SCHLETTWEIN

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry do you want to provide some information? Please do.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: I am rising on a Point of Order, to draw your attention to the **General Restrictions** under Rule 108(g) that says; *“Members may not refer to names of persons, or any statement of fact, unless they be necessary to render the question intelligible and can be authenticated”*.

I just recalled that some Members mentioned names of juristic persons and natural persons in the Debate and I am just seeking your advice how the record will reflect this situation because I think it is a Rule that has maybe been overlooked. That was the point I wanted to raise. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I have taken note of that. Any Objections. Agreed to.

I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED

Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

17 April 2013

ADJOURNMENT

HONOURABLE SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 14:30.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 21:10 UNTIL 2013.04.18 AT 14:30

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER
18 APRIL 2013
WINDHOEK**

The Assembly met pursuant to the Adjournment.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

HON SPEAKER: The Business of the House shall now commence. I have the pleasure to inform the Honourable Members that in the public gallery is the presence of 41 students from the Rundu Campus of the University of Namibia. Welcome, sometime you will find a road that will lead you to come and sit here and others of course would do other equally important things as were assigned by the Nation.

I am told they are Members of the Students Parliament apart from the University students.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Any Notice of Questions? Honourable Moongo.

ORAL QUESTION

HON MOONGO: Thank you Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I would like to ask Oral Questions to the following Ministries:

1. Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development:

18 April 2013

**ORAL QUESTION
HON MOONGO**

The community and I propose that the Delimitation Commission makes Ondangwa a Region and Ondangwa town as a Headquarter of the proposed Region. In addition we also request that a historic stone be erected, with the names of heroes like King Nehale, all the other Kings and the soldiers who died with King Nehale during the German war imprinted on it.

2. I would also like to propose to the Ministry of Works that it renames all the railway stations (intervention).

HON SPEAKER: We usually defer questions until after we dispose of the Budget. However, if they are very pressing questions that need to be attended to (intervention).

HON MOONGO: I wanted to read them all. They are very short questions.

HON SPEAKER: In the first place I am saying we do not entertain questions as much as possible, particularly questions of substance as you have indicated now. I cannot entertain this question, so I do not want to entertain the others (interjection).

HON MOONGO: What about others?

HON SPEAKER: I do not know, but I am trying to discourage you from asking questions now until we finish the Budget. That is the procedure,

18 April 2013

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

but if they are very pressing questions that need to be attended to and you want to bring them to the attention of the House that can be considered, but not questions. Therefore, I am not going to entertain questions.

Notice of Motions? Honourable Katjavivi.

MOTION ON THE BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 12, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 31 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. I have a loaded question with implications that some Honourable Member passed on to me, I am going to read what I do not want to read and it is to kindly remind members of the SWAPO Party that the 19th is the Party's birthday. I take it everybody should know that. If you are a SWAPO member, you should know that.

I have no indication of a Ministerial Statement. The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.1 – 2013]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage – *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2013].

18 April 2013

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

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

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

HON SPEAKER: Any Objections? Secondments? Agreed to. The Honourable Chief Whip, standing in for the Deputy Speaker will take the Chair.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: The Whole House Committee is called to order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1. – 2013]. When progress was reported yesterday, 17 April 2013, Votes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes 12, 14, 19 and 20 had been introduced.

Vote 21 – “**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**”, **N\$586,647,000.00** put for Introduction. I call upon the Deputy Minister of Safety and Security.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me also join the other Honourable Members to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila for her continued good work in her capacity as the Minister of Finance. We wish her with her dedicated team of staff, all

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UTONI

the best in their endeavours to steer our economy through this delicate recovery period from the global economic crisis and other related economic disturbances.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I would now like to take this opportunity to introduce Vote 21 of the Ministry of Safety and Security – **Namibian Correctional Service** for your consideration. Our Ministry is requesting a Total Budget of **Five Hundred and Eighty Six Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$586,647,000.00)**, of which **Four Hundred and Sixty-Eight Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$468,647,000.00)** is for the Operational Budget and **One Hundred and Eighteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$118,000,000.00)** is for the Development Budget.

Although we requested for an additional **Two Hundred and Twenty-Four Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 224,773,000.00)** for the 2013/2014 Financial Year, we only received **Sixty-Three Million, Seven Hundred and Ninety One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$63,791,000.00)** of which **Thirty Five Million, Seven Hundred and Ninety One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$35,791,000.00)** is for the Operational Budget and **Twenty-Eight Million Namibia Dollars (N\$28,000,000.00)** is for the Development Budget and we are indeed grateful.

PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, at the beginning of the last Financial Year, I requested this august House to approve a sum of **Four Hundred and Forty-Seven Million, Three Hundred and Sixty-Nine Thousand, Namibia Dollars (N\$447,369,000.00)** for the Namibian Correctional Service which included the Operational and Development Budget.

For the 2012/2013 Financial Year, the Programmes of the Namibian Correctional Service were as follows: Safe Custody; Rehabilitation; Re-integration; and Coordination and Support. In this light, I will briefly

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UUTONI

reflect on some achievements made in the implementation of the budget:

1. Safe Custody

The Namibian Correctional Service has successfully managed to keep safe custody of offenders sent to prison. In the period of 2012/2013, the monthly average number of offenders in our correctional facilities stood at approximately 4,200 with the majority of offenders being at the ages of between 18 and 29.

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

Classification of offender populations is one of the most important functions of any modern Correctional Agency. It serves as a management tool to minimise the potential for institutional misbehaviour and violence; mitigates the probability of escape and directs resources to where they are most needed. As a result of this approach, no major security incidents were reported in the Namibian Correctional Service facilities during the review period and escapes were reduced from ten (10) during the 2011/2012 period to two (2) in the 2012/2013 period. These offenders escaped while doing work outside our correctional facilities and they were both re-arrested on the same day.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, among other Capital Projects, the under-mentioned main projects are progressing as follows:

Farm Scott Open Prison Construction

An amount of **Thirty Four Million, Four Hundred and Eighty-Six Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty-Six Namibia Dollars and Ten Cents (N\$34,486,666.10)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UUTONI

Financial Year. The construction of the medium prison is ongoing and progressed to 80% of completion during the review period. This project continues to employ 89 people on average. We expect construction of this facility to be completed by September 2013.

NCS Training College Construction

An amount of **Four Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Nine Namibia Dollars and Sixty-Three Cents (N\$458,889.63)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. The construction of the Training College was completed. This project employed offenders. I am happy to state here that the College was officially inaugurated on the 27th of March 2013.

Official Accommodation Construction: Divundu Rehabilitation Centre

An amount of **One Million, Three Hundred and Sixty-Three Thousand, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Seven Namibia Dollars and Thirty-Seven Cents (N\$1,363,727.37)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. The construction covers 20 bachelor's flats and 5 houses which have progressed to 80% of completion. This project continues to employ mainly offenders and a private sub-contractor for the electrical works, which employs 4 workers.

Swakopmund Prison Renovation

An amount of **Four Million and Sixty-Five Thousand, One Hundred and Fifty-Three Namibia Dollars and Seventy Cents (N\$4,065,153.70)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. Renovations were completed. This project employed 28 workers on average.

Windhoek Prison Unit Management Conversion

An amount of **Ten Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Three Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighteen Namibia Dollars and Fourteen Cents (N\$10,993,718.14)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013

Financial Year. The construction is for a female prison and had progressed up to 50% of completion. This project continues to employ 35 workers on average.

Hardap Prison Unit Management Conversion

An amount of **Five Million, Four Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty-Three Namibia Dollars (N\$5,454,283.00)** was spent on this project during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. Phase one consisting of the demarcation of three units and the Programme facility was completed during the review period. The project continues to employ 30 workers on average.

Divundu Prison Unit Management Conversion

An amount of **Three Hundred and Ninety-One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty Namibia Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (N\$391,820.94)** was spent on the documentation during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. The documentation involves the design and cost estimates/bill of quantity and this project is now ready for tendering.

The overall rate of implementation recorded for these seven projects is 90.6%.

2. Rehabilitation

The Namibian Correctional Service continues with its efforts in achieving successful rehabilitation of offenders. In the period under review, major initiatives were undertaken to take-stock, review, and thereby improve the Rehabilitation Programmes to concretise the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy. These include the comprehensive review of how the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy is being implemented at the Windhoek Central Prison and Elizabeth Nepemba Correctional Facility to identify gaps and the subsequent establishment of teams to address these gaps. In addition, training of Programme Officers and Case Management Officers was conducted by a Consultant. Nine (9)

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UUTONI

Programme Officers were recruited for Windhoek Central Prison and Elizabeth Nepemba Correctional Facility.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, we consider our agriculture production initiatives as significant contributors to the rehabilitation of offenders, not only in terms of averting idleness of offenders, but most importantly imparting work skills and attitudes that are important for their livelihood after their release from prisons. In this regard, our food production initiative at the Divundu Rehabilitation Centre in the Kavango Region continues to be the best provider particularly in maize and wheat production. The Namibian Correctional Service continues in a sustainable way to supply maize meal and bread flour to all its institutions with some significant level of surplus.

We also take pride in the Farm Scott Open Prison in the Oshikoto Region which is a 5,000 ha farm consisting of 31 grazing camps, 100 hectare fodder under dry land and 40 hectare for irrigation pivots for fodder, 1 hectare is for fruit trees and 30 hectare is for yellow maize. Our main production line at Farm Scott Open Prison, however, is cattle and small stock and it currently provides 89% of red meat requirements to correctional facilities around the country.

Other on-going offender employment activities are de-bushing, dropper cutting, milling fodder, construction, fencing and maintenance workshops.

3. Re-integration

Following the much appreciated promulgation of the *Correctional Service Act*, 2012 (Act 9 of 2012), we have engaged on a project to develop a Community Supervision Framework which is intended to pave the way and to operationalise its provisions with regard to the re-integration Programmes for offenders particularly those that are released on parole and remission.

It is commonly acknowledged that offenders face difficulties in re-entering society. To increase the chances of safe and successful reintegration of

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UUTONI

offenders into the community, a Pre-Release Process which works towards the preparation for release of offenders who are approaching possible release was developed.

4. Staff development

Honourable Members, since the 2009/2010 Financial Year, we have been reporting that a number of our staff are on the degree course in Criminal Justice (Correctional Management) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminal Justice which the Namibian Correctional Service jointly developed with the Polytechnic of Namibia (PoN) and is fully funded by the Namibian Correctional Service. This Programme is running very well, and last year, the first Eight (8) out of the Eleven (11) officers who completed their studies successfully graduated and obtained their degrees in April last year. Again tomorrow, 19 April 2013, a total of Eight (8) correctional officers are graduating. For this academic year, Nine (9) correctional officers are in their third year, another Nine (9) in the second year and Thirteen (13) in their first year.

Apart from the above Degree programmes, we have another Ten (10) correctional officers and staff members enrolled for various qualifications including Law, Public Relations, Public Administration, Psychology and General Nursing and Midwifery and Science in various tertiary institutions nationally and internationally. Another Nine (9) correctional officers are enrolled at the Health Training Centres of the Ministry of Health and Social Services for Health Care Training courses.

5. Health Care

The Namibian Correctional Service continues with its sustained efforts to improve health in its institutions by partnering with key stakeholders who have been contributing significantly to the combating of serious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and other diseases. These stakeholders are Centre for Disease Control (CDC), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Global Fund (GF) through the Ministry of Health and Social Services. The CDC continues to fund the salaries of Community Counselors who are providing voluntary

18 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21
HON UUTONI**

counseling and testing services in our institutions. There are Fifteen (15) HIV/AIDS Community Counselors deployed in Eleven (11) of the Namibian Correctional Service facilities. These Community Counselors are also providing education and awareness campaigns to our offenders. The Namibian Global Fund Programme provided the Namibian Correctional Service with two staff members placed at our Headquarters running HIV/AIDS educational campaigns, awareness and training programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support targeting inmates and correctional officers. The Global Fund allocated **Four Million, Two Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$4,200,000.00)** for the period June 2010 to March 2013, of this amount, **Two Million and Twenty-Nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty-Eight Namibia Dollars and Five Cents (N\$2,029,338.05)** was spent on the various Programmes mentioned above, and an amount of **Two Million, One Hundred and Forty-Five Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty-Four Namibia Dollars and Sixty-Seven Cents (N\$2,145,554.67)** still remains for until June 2013. The UNODC activities with the Namibian Correctional Service include facilitating consultative and planning meetings, training of both members and offenders in HIV/AIDS prevention, supporting the World AIDS Day Commemoration in our institutions, Counseling and Testing for HIV, funding the attendance of the Namibian Correctional Service HIV/AIDS focal person to the African HIV in Prisons Partnership Network (AHPPN) steering committee meeting in Mauritius. The UNODC also completed a comprehensive assessment on HIV/AIDS in our correctional facilities with a particular emphasis on the prevalence and mode of transmission in our correctional facilities. We expect a report in this regard soon. An amount of **Four Hundred and Fifteen Thousand, Eight Hundred and Ninety Four Namibia Dollars (N\$415,894.00)** was spent on the above activities.

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

**CHALLENGES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL
SERVICES**

The challenges are many, but I selectively want to reflect on the following

very few crucial ones:

1. Correctional Facilities:

Our Correctional Facilities are dilapidated and not correctly placed in the country. They are mostly located in the previously white dominated towns and cities. Therefore some areas that are densely populated do not have correctional facilities. For example Oluno Rehabilitation Centre currently services Oshana, Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshikoto Regions and to some extent Kavango and Caprivi Regions. As a result, we often experience perpetual overcrowding at some of our facilities and devote much time and resources on transporting offenders to remote areas for courts and other activities.

2. Security Equipment

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

3. Materials and Supplies for Offenders and Staff

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

Furthermore, our staff members are expected to present themselves in a

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON UUTONI

manner which portrays a professional image requiring them to dress in proper uniform. However, this is also not often the case due to inadequate funds.

4. Manpower

The staff establishment of the Namibian Correctional Service is 4,402, however, only 1,958 of these positions are filled while 2,444 are vacant. This presents a staff shortage of more than 55%. We are unable to recruit as funds are not provided and as a result we are experiencing an acute shortage of staff.

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

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 2012/2013 FINANCIAL YEAR

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

The Total Budget allocated for the 2013/2014 Financial Year amounts to the sum of **Five Hundred and Eighty-Six Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$586,647,000.00)**, of which **Four Hundred and Sixty-Eight Millions, Six Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$468,647,000.00)** is for the Operational Budget and **One Hundred and Eighteen Millions Namibia Dollars (N\$118,000,000.00)** is for the Development Budget.

The following four Programmes have been identified to be implemented in the next Medium Term Expenditure Framework. They are:

Programme 1: Safe Custody and Rehabilitation

An amount of **Five Hundred and Thirty-Four Million, Four Hundred and Sixty-Eight Thousand, Namibia Dollars (N\$534,468,000.00)** is allocated to Safe Custody and Rehabilitation.

Programme 2: Compliance and Control of Correctional Facilities

An amount of **Thirty-Four Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$34,993,000.00)** is allocated to Compliance and Control of Correctional Facilities.

Programme 3: Reintegration

One Million and Eight Hundred and Sixteen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,816,000.00) is allocated to Reintegration.

4.4 Programme 4: Supervision and Support Services

Fifteen Million and Three Hundred and Seventy-Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$15,370,000) is allocated to Supervision and Support Services.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, in conclusion, I now have the pleasure of requesting this beloved august House to approve the sum of **Five Hundred and Eighty Six Million, Six hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$586,647,000.00)** for the **Namibian Correctional Service**. I thank you.

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

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

Vote 22 – **“FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES”**,
N\$282,722,000.00 put for Introduction. I call upon the Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:
Honorable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee I am delighted to rise before this august House to seek approval of the Budget for Vote 22: **Fisheries and Marine Resources**.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate my sister, Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila for continuously devising a pro-poor National Budget geared towards reducing poverty, inequality and unemployment as captured in its theme ***“Growing the Economy, Optimising Development Outcome.”*** I would also like to congratulate the National Planning Commissioner, Comrade Tom alweendo and his team.

Honourable Members, the amount which I seek the House’s approval for is a sum of N\$282,722,000.00 for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

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

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, allow me to outline the performance of the Fishing Industry during the reporting period.

Namibia’s Fishing Industry remains the country’s second highest export earner of foreign currency after mining. In addition, the Sector plays a significant role in terms of employment creation and Government revenue generation. The overall business environment within Fishing Industry has improved during the 2011/2012 season and most commercial fisheries

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

experienced an increase in market prices as a result of different economic factors.

This was influenced by the improved fish sizes, which resulted in favourable market prices for some fish and fishery products.

One of the factors determining the cost of operation in the Fishing Industry is fuel, which inevitably increases the cost of production when a huge increase is experienced during a Financial Year. During the reporting period, diesel prices increased three times averaging at N\$10.44 per litre at the coastal pump price. This translated into an increase of N\$1.32, compared to N\$0.33 in 2011. The rising fuel prices have a negative impact on the production cost for this Sector and the strong exchange rate reduces the Sector's competitiveness against cheap and low quality fish and fishery products from far eastern countries such as China and Thailand.

With respect to the exchange rates, we have observed that the exchange rate was stable in the last Financial Year and remained almost static at an average of USD1=N\$8 throughout the year.

Honourable members, the preliminary figures from the Namibia Statistical Agency indicate that the Fishing Industry's contribution to the Gross Domestic Production (GDP) for the year 2012 was 3.1%, which is a light reduction from our GDP contribution in 2012 which stood at 3.6%. However, we are optimistic that the figure might go up when the final figure is released. The final value of exports in the Fishery Sector stood at N\$5,1 billion in 2011, compared to N\$4,4 billion in 2010. This was due to increase in prices of value addition and increased in landings.

We, therefore, expect a gradual recovery of the Fishing Sector performance and its contribution to GDP and employment back to its glorious level.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, the Mariculture Sector has recorded significant recovery and production of shellfish namely; oysters and abalone. 5,6 million oysters were sold in 2012, mostly exported to Eastern and South African markets. Our main centres

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

of production remain Walvis Bay, Swakopmund and Lüderitz, with promising new development in Oranjemund. The Mariculture Sector has gained enormous experience by facing many challenges and is poised to grow, having overcome many of those challenges. There has been good skills development and training in the Sector coupled with a good amount of research and development for new species, markets and techniques for the sustainability of the Sector.

Favourable natural inshore environmental conditions in 2012 promoted good growth of our shellfish. Mariculture production was not hindered by hydrogen sulphide and harmful algal bloom problems.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, allow me to motivate for specific Programmes, as follows:

We are requesting an amount of N\$282,722,000.00 for 2013/2014 Financial Year for the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources to fulfil its mandate.

Out of the total of N\$282,722,000.00 allocated to Vote 22, an amount of N\$240,722,000.00 is budgeted for Operational Activities, while N\$42,000,000.00 is earmarked for Expenditure on Capital Projects. Out of the Operational Expenditure, N\$11,529,000.00 is allocated to Fisheries Observer Agency (FOA), while N\$17,528,000.00 is allocated to Namibian Maritime and Fisheries Institute (NAMFI). Lastly, an amount of N\$7,000,000.00 will be transferred to the Lüderitz Water Front Development Company (LWFDC) as part of our Ministry's contribution to that project.

The allocated amounts will be utilised as follows:

Programme 1:

Survey and Stock Assessments

The main purpose of this Programme is to assess the status of fishery stocks, and the marine environment to provide scientific advice to the

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

Government on the sustainable utilisation of such resources.

Surveys to assess the population dynamics and distribution of commercially important stocks, such as hake, monk, horse mackerel, pilchard, crab, rock lobster, seals as well as those to determine the state of the marine environment, were conducted during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. The surveys revealed that most of the commercially important fish stocks are in a stable state, while pilchard still needs to recover to a sustainable level where it can make a significant contribution to the economy.

By now it is common knowledge that during the 2012/2013 Financial Year, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources has acquired a new multi-disciplinary research vessel. This vessel is expected to significantly improve the Ministry's capacity to conduct marine surveys for the resources and the environment. Thus far the vessel has been used to conduct few surveys on the environment, during which highly specialized oceanographic data was generated.

Scientific surveys and research activities aimed at assessing the population dynamics and distribution of our commercially important stocks and the marine environment, will be conducted during 2013/2014 Financial Year to continue with the data trends necessary for stock assessment.

With the acquisition of the new research vessel, funds need to be availed for the maintenance of the vessel, as well as for other operational costs such as fuel and lubricants. Currently, there is a shortage of funds needed to utilise this vessel to the maximum.

The additional Budget requested by the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources to run this new vessel during the 2013/2014 Financial Year was not approved and this matter needs to be reconsidered. Furthermore, field trips will be undertaken to collect fisheries and biological data required for stock assessment and for monitoring the seal population.

Further, the Ministry will embark on the completion of the Pilchard and Horse Mackerel Management Plans in the 2013/2014 Financial Year. The

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

Hake Management Plan, which was completed during the 2011/2012 Financial Year, shall serve as a template for the remainder of the Management Plans still to be completed.

The implementation of Management Plans is required for Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAF) that has been agreed upon by fishing nations and the FAO to start in 2010 already. The implementation of EAF shall see fishing nations moving away from target oriented fisheries management towards considering a broader spectrum of the entire ecosystem, including socio-economic issues, when managing fisheries resources.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, to fulfil our responsibilities under this Programme we are seeking N\$34,181,000.00 for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

Programme 2:

Human Resources Development

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

During 2012/2013 the Ministry allocated bursaries to fifteen (15) staff members as a contribution to the accumulative target of 30 per MTEF period; in the fields of fisheries, aquatic sciences, economics, marine engineering class 6, administration, human resources, Information technology and management.

Twelve (12) bursary holders have completed their studies obtaining certificates, diplomas and honours degrees, while others are continuing with their studies in various fields together with ten (10) current (2013/2014) bursary and scholarship holders.

In addition, the Ministry has trained 146 staff members in various skills development fields, during the last Financial Year, in order to address its

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

strategic needs. A large number of staff members have been trained in the areas of HIV/AIDS awareness, Electronic Documents and Record Management System (EDRMS), while at least more than 10 staff members are continuing with qualifying training in various fields.

In addition, the Ministry through the Namibian Maritime and Fisheries Institute (NAMFI) has trained personnel in Navigation, Engineering and basic Safety, which is in compliance with the International Convention of Standard of Training and Watch-Keeping for the Seafarers. Further, skills and capacity development are still required in different disciplines of finance, administration and other relevant areas.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, an amount of N\$1,790,000.00 under Vote 22, as per MTEF, has been allocated to this important Programme for the 2013/2014 Financial Year. This amount has been reduced drastically by 50% when compared to 2012/2013 Financial Year.

Programme 3:

Marine and Inland Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure that fishing and fisheries related activities within the Namibian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and inland water bodies comply with the country's fisheries legislations. The MCS Programme is further meant to ensure that fishing activities by licensed Namibian flagged vessels outside the EEZ are carried out in accordance with International Laws and conservation measures of regional fisheries management organisations to which Namibia is a contracting party.

Through our effective MCS Programme, Namibia continued to record successes in the effort to fight against IUU fishing. The presence of fisheries inspectors at sea, in the air, at harbours, processing plants, along the coast, and along the rivers and inland fresh water bodies, has prevented and deterred would-be fish pirates from our waters.

Further, the presence of the fisheries patrol vessels at and around Cape

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

Cross and the fisheries patrol air crafts in the sky have served as a deterrent to those foreign intruders with intention to sabotage the sustainable utilisation of the Namibian seals population. The Ministry has deployed personnel on board Patrol Vessel “Anna Kakurukaze Mungunda” and “Nathanael Maxuilili” during six months of harvesting to monitor the movement of these economic saboteurs.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, it is worth-mentioning that we have recorded a break-through in the fight against illegal and unregulated fishing within inland fisheries. A number of fishermen have taken advantage of the shortcomings within the inland fisheries legislations. This includes the vastness of the area and the number of inspectors available to enforce inland fisheries legislation, especially in the Caprivi Region, taking advantages of these shortcomings; they tried to conduct illegal and unregulated fishing activities.

However, the Joint operation called “Hammer on the Nail” that was spearheaded in June 2012 by the Namibian Police caught them by surprise. The operation has resulted in the reduction level of illegal fishing and fisheries related activities in Caprivi region and especially around Lake Liambezi. The Ministry intends to undertake more surprise operations in the future. I would like to inform the House that the Ministry is also in the process of amending our inland legislation in order to harmonise our law with those of our neighbouring countries.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, allow me to inform this august House that the constructions of Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Regional Offices are budgeted for under the MCS Programme. Last year, I informed this House that my Ministry has completed the Katima Mulilo regional offices. These offices were inaugurated in May 2012. Today, I am glad to inform the house that the Ministry has commenced the construction of our regional offices in the Kavango Region. With the construction work already at an advanced stage, we hope to progress well on this project during this Financial Year.

In order to carry out activities under this Programme during the 2013/2014

Financial Year, an amount of N\$127,145,000.00 is requested.

Programme 4:

Promotion of Marine & Inland Aquaculture

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure responsible and sustainable development of aquaculture, to achieve food security, socio-economic benefits and environmental sustainability as well as to promote responsible aquaculture production practices. We are embarking on development which aims at meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Minister, have you still got a great deal, so that we can go for tea and you continue after tea?

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Yes we can break for tea with the concurrence of the House.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Is that the consensus of the House? I actually thought that you were getting a bit more closer to concluding.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: There are still two more pages.

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Shall we then break for tea and continue after the break?

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 15:44

HOUSE RESUMES AT 16:20

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I call upon the Honourable Minister to continue.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:

Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. The fish feed plant in the Omusati Region produced a total feed of 234 tons during 2012 compared to 175 tons in 2011. Although the feed production has increased, this was still too low compared to the estimated annual production capacity of 380 tons. The ingredients used to produce the 234 tons were costed at ± N\$1 million, which is far higher than the N\$375,000.00 Budget allocated for the Financial Year 2012/2013. In addition, we are still faced with the challenge of sinking pellets that we produce at the feed plant. This is due to the fact that the production line is not equipped with the necessary equipment, specifically the extruder or a steam boiler which is estimated at a cost N\$900,000.00.

It is against this background that we are requesting N\$2,000,000.00 for the purchasing of fish feed ingredients and the above mentioned equipment.

Honourable Chairperson, the inauguration of the Caprivi Regional Office last year will enable the Ministry to promote the development of fish farming in the region, including rendering extension services to existing

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

and emerging fish farmers. The scientists at this office will be conducting scientific research and biological surveys in the rivers and lakes in order to monitor the fish catch per unit effort and species composition.

During the year under reporting a state of the art building complex in Swakopmund housing offices and multiple laboratories has been completed and marked a dream come true for the Mariculture staff at the Coast. Twin laboratory complexes in the newly constructed sea-facing block offer facilities to ensure that the important aspects of research, quality control and disease surveillance are addressed by the Ministry for the Mariculture Industry. To date, the Namibia mariculture products are tested and disease free and the water quality for mariculture is excellent.

Water quality and biosecurity are key factors affecting mariculture production and are carefully monitored by the Ministry's researchers. To date Namibian mariculture activities are tested and are disease-free and the water quality is excellent. Separate laboratories are dedicated to water chemistry, phytoplankton and biotoxin analyses, histology, parasitology, and microbiology. Some of the laboratories are fully equipped and functioning; others await budgetary allocation to be equipped adequately.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I am delighted to report to this House that the Ministry is in the final stage of completing the Aquaculture Master Plan which would be presented to Cabinet for approval. The Master Plan was crafted with the financial and technical assistance from the African Development Bank (ADB).

Upon approval, the Ministry will embark upon the implementation of the Plan as per the recommendations in the Plan which would be a working road map for addressing complex and multifaceted issues impending the development and growth of the Aquaculture Sector. It would also serve as a guide to put in place measures to kick-start, consolidate and expand aquaculture in Namibia. It is estimated that the initial implementation of this plan will cost the Ministry approximately N\$3 million.

Honourable Chairperson, the People's Republic of China has made a grant

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

of N\$15 million available for aquaculture development in Namibia. This grant will be used for the upgrading of the Hardap Inland Aquaculture Centre in the Hardap Region. Areas identified for upgrading include tunnels for ponds, construction and compaction of earth ponds, piping and pump systems, construction of fish processing facilities as well as upgrading of existing buildings.

At the beginning of September 2012, the Ministry received an invitation from the Chinese Government to send a team to China to look at the designs before the implementation of this project. Construction is scheduled to commence during the 2nd quarter of this year.

Although the construction will be funded through the grant, additional funds at an amount of N\$500,000.00 is needed to pay local engineers to oversee the construction process. Rehabilitation of these facilities will increase fingerling production, thereby increasing fish production and creation of employment opportunities for Namibians in the Fish Trade Sector.

Honourable Chairperson, our ultimate aim is to develop aquaculture in all 13 Regions of our country, especially in those Regions which are bestowed with a large quantity of water. The Karas Regional Council has also earmarked the construction of the Noordoewer Inland Aquaculture Centre. Following the completion of a feasibility study, it was recommended that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) be carried out. An amount of N\$44,000.00 was spent on the EIA.

Honourable Chairperson, in order to carry out activities under this programme during 2013/2014 Financial Year, an amount of N\$50,904,000.00 is sought for support.

Programme 5:

Coordination and Support Services

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to the Vote's Programmes and ensure proper financial management, optimal

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

utilisation of resources such as human, financial, information technology, maintenance, logistical management, and capacity building.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, major activities carried out under this Programme are such as the extension of the Head Office to ensure that the Ministerial staff members are housed within the same complex is still in the pipeline. Phase one of this project i.e. demolition, excavation and stabilization has been completed during 2010/2011 at the cost of N\$7,000,000.00.

However, due to unforeseen technical circumstances involved in the tendering and awarding processes of the project, phase two could not commence to date. We are hopeful that construction activities for phase 2 will commence early in the 2013/2014 Financial Year. For this purpose, an amount of N\$9,000,000.00 is provided for in the Budget. This project is one of the urgent priorities of the Ministry as it would improve the working environment for staff members.

These activities are general administration, and management of immovable and movable asset of the Ministry. The implementation of the Ministerial Strategic Plan, as well as the Performance Management System (PMS), is also catered for under this Programme. For this purpose, N\$14,236,000.00 is budgeted for general administration services.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the HIV/AIDS pandemic has devastating effects on our society, and to fight this omnipresent plague on the workforce, the Ministry has allocated a Budget to HIV/AIDS related activities. These activities aim at creating awareness, promote behavioural change, and advocating changes for counselling.

In addition we would embark on a prevalence testing programme, though voluntary, with the ministerial staff. We set out and planned Programmes for continuous training of peer educators, focal persons and counsellors; to hold awareness forums on poverty, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

Our Programmes are also intended to lead to develop a behavioural-change for the prevention of sexual transmission of HIV, adapted to

different target groups.

Further activities include scaling up positive prevention in HIV-negative people. Increase roll-out of prevention programs for higher risk areas in the fisheries sector. Engage in advocacy and lobbying on behalf of fishers and the fishing communities for interventions, including access to Anti-Retroviral Drugs (ARVs) that specifically target the needs of these groups.

Therefore, an amount of N\$1,582,000.00 is directed to HIV/AIDS related activities.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, information technology is becoming a necessity rather than a luxury, therefore, the Ministry will continue to procure and maintain IT equipment and upgrade the network infrastructure to facilitate efficient communication and service delivery. Therefore, an amount of N\$5,141,000.00 is aimed to this activity.

The expected outcome of these Programmes is to create a conducive environment, improve service delivery, and effective and efficient management of human resources. Further it will also improve productivity and service delivery due to increase awareness created amongst staff members.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, in order to carry out the activities under this Programme during 2013/2014 Financial Year, an amount of N\$48,544,000.00 is sought for support.

Programme 6:

Policy and Economic Advice

The main purpose of the Programme is to advice the Ministry on socio-economic performance of the Fishing Industry and also to analyse the social-economic impact of the allocated Total Allowable Catch (TAC) on the Fishing Industry.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, this Programme covers the socio-

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

economic appraisal of Total Allowable Catch (TAC), for every commercial fishery which is done at the end of each fishing season and before the new Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the following season is determined. Socio-economic recommendation are also given to the Marine Advisory Council which in turn advice the Minister on the ideal TAC for each fishery.

The Programme is also responsible for monitoring and tracking the performance of the fishing industry, especially progress made on employment, investment and socio-economic contribution by the fishing industry. This is done to ensure that maximum benefit from the living marine resource is accrued to the economy.

During the 2013/2014 Financial Year, the Ministry will continue with the review of the Marine Resources Policy, Act and Regulations. It is expected that wide consultations with all relevant stakeholders would be embarked upon in order to have inputs from various constituencies.

I would like to inform the house that an internal consultation have taken place during the 2012/2013 Financial Year which officially kicked start the review process. In addition, various stakeholders within the Fishing Industry and supporting industry have been consulted in the process of devising a project document that will serve as a guiding tool for the entire process.

I am also pleased to inform you that last year the Ministry participated in various international fisheries expo to share experience from international best practices.

In order to carry out activities under this Programme during 2013/2014 Financial Year, an amount of N\$18,142,000.00 is sought for support.

Programme 7:

Tax Revenue Administration

The main purpose of this Programme is to verify landings and collect quota

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 22**
HON ESAU

fees and other quota related fees which constitute as the main revenue to the State from the fishing industry.

During 2012/2013 Financial Year, the Ministry collected an amount of N\$46,947,369.71 in quota fees from the fishing industry. However, the Hake and Monk Sectors are expected to pay their last quarterly installment by the end April 2013.

Further, in the 2012/2013 Financial Year, the Ministry has embarked on Revenue Collection and Debtor's Management System to assist the Ministry improve its revenue collection process.

The system will manage right holders invoicing details for purpose of quarterly invoicing and tracking of payment due. The system is expected to be operational in the 2013/2014 Financial Year, and we anticipate an efficient revenue collection as a result.

In order to carry out activities under this Programme during 2013/2014 Financial Year, an amount of N\$2,016,000.00 is sought for support.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, allow me to submit, to this august House, Vote 22: **Fisheries and Marine Resources** for 2013/2014 for consideration and approval.

We are committed to implement all Programmes as I have highlighted them in this Motivation in order to fulfil our mandate of the sustainable development of the Fishery and Aquaculture Sectors. I thank you.

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

Vote 31 – **“VETERANS AFFAIRS”, N\$861,190,000.00** put for Introduction. Honourable Dr Iyambo, you have the Floor.

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 31**
HON DR IYAMBO

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I am taking the floor to motivate Vote 31 for your kind consideration and approval.

My Ministry's mandate is to initiate promote and implement projects and programmes that address the socio-economic needs of the veterans including keeping the national liberation history alive.

Firstly, I want to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Finance, the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their staff for a well composed Budget which indeed aims at investing in our future and enhancing our competitiveness as a Nation. What stands out clearly is that this Budget is indeed about improving the living standards of our people.

Secondly, I want to draw the Honourable Member's attention to the Government Accountability Report of the 2011/2012 Financial Year, Pages 404 to 409 which detailed the activities of the year under review. Therefore, for the detailed activities of what had happened, facts and figures are available in that Accountability Report where it indicated that the execution rate of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs for the 2012/2013 Financial Year stands at 99.9%.

Thirdly, I am now moving to present the Budget request for the Vote 31, Ministry of Veterans Affairs for the 2013/2014 Financial Year:

The Ministry of Veterans Affairs is requesting the Honourable Members to support the request of **Eight Hundred and Sixty One Million and One Hundred and Ninety Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$861,190,000.00)** Budget to enable the Ministry to carry out its Mandate as per the following Programmes and Activities:

PROGRAMME 1: VETERANS WELFARE DEVELOPMENT

Activity 1: Identification and Registration of Veterans and Dependents of Veterans

Registration of many Namibians, who have not been registered, continues. Under the registration activity, the Ministry will review the existing regulations and formulate new ones that will interpret those new Amendments introduced in the Amendment of the *Veterans Act* last year.

The Ministry is going to issue identification cards to all the approved veterans. To cover these activities, the Ministry requests **Four Hundred and Sixty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$460,000.00)**.

Activity 2: Support Package to Veterans (Payment of Monthly Financial Assistance and Certain Support Services)

The Ministry will also continue to pay a monthly allowance of **Two Thousand Two Hundred Namibia Dollars (N\$2,200.00)** to unemployed veterans and veterans whose income is below the taxable amount.

An amount of **Three Hundred and Sixteen Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$316,800,000.00)** is requested to pay monthly subventions to veterans.

Activity 3: Medical Assistance to and Psychological Counseling of Veterans

This Activity is aimed at addressing the physical and psychological needs of veterans such as purchasing of prosthetic and other mobility aids and cover medical treatment for veterans where Government health facilities are unable to manage such conditions, but does not include veterans who are covered under a medical aid scheme. The Activity will also include the rolling out of psychological awareness creation to all Regions as it was done in the Khomas Region during the 2012/2013 Financial Year.

An amount of **Twenty Five Million Four Hundred and Eighty**

Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$25,480,000.00) is requested to fulfill the tasks.

Activity 4: Payment of a Once-Off Gratuity (Lump Sum)

In October 2010, Cabinet approved the payment of lump sum to veterans over a period of three Financial Years beginning 2010/2012. The Ministry is requesting an amount of **Two Hundred and Fifty Million Namibia Dollars (N\$250,000,000.00)** during the 2013/2014 Financial Year to pay the lump sum to veterans.

Activity 5: Education and Training Grants to Veterans and Dependents of Veterans

The purpose of the Educational and Training Grant is to provide financial support to veterans and dependents of veterans who wish to further their studies or obtain vocational skills at institutions of higher learning in Namibia to enable them to compete in the labour market and secure employment. A total amount of **Nine Million, Two Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$9,288,000.00)** is required for this Activity.

Activity 6: Funeral Grant

The Ministry requires **Six Million, Five Hundred and Twenty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$6,520,000.00)** for this purpose.

Activity 7: Individual Veterans' Projects

Veterans are venturing into projects in areas of property development, livestock farming, transportation and crop production.

An amount of **Sixty Million Namibia Dollars (N\$60,000,000.00)** is required for the individual veteran's projects for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

Activity 8: Housing

70 Houses are envisaged to be constructed across the 13 Regions of the country. The Ministry requests **Thirty Five Million, One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$35,150,000.00)** for this purpose.

Activity 9: Resettlement

The Ministry envisages acquiring 2 farms during this Financial Year and it is requesting **Thirteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$13,000,000.00)** for that purpose.

Activity 10: Development Planning/Projects Management Programme

i) Turn-Around Strategy for Former Development Brigade Corporation Projects

Training of staff members on the implementation of the turnaround strategy for Okatope Poultry farm, Namibia Bricks Enterprise and Star Protection Services and the actual implementation of the strategy is envisaged for this Financial Year. The joint Management Committee comprising of members from the Ministry of Veterans Affairs and the Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association will spearhead the implementation of the strategy. The Ministry is requesting **Twenty Nine Million, Eight Thousand and Ninety Two Namibia Dollars (N\$29,892,000.00)** for this Activity.

ii) Etaka Veterans Recreational Centre

Construction of the facility is continuing, for which the Ministry is requesting **Three Million Namibia Dollars (N\$3,000,000.00)** for this Financial Year to further develop the facility.

iii) Ministerial Capital Projects

The Ministry is requesting **Ten Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$10,500,000.00)** for Ministerial Capital Projects

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 31**
HON DR IYAMBO

such as the acquisition of offices for the Ministerial Headquarters, regional offices and for the agricultural support programme for resettled veterans.

Activity 11: Conferment of National Status and Awards

Honourable Members, you may recall that in 2012 you approved the Bill titled **Conferment of National Status and Awards. One Million, Two Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,200,000.00)** is required to start with the implementation of this important Activity.

Activity 12: Veterans Association Grant

An amount of **One Million Namibia Dollars (N\$1,000,000.00)** is needed to enable the Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association to do its work during the 2013/2014 Financial Year as per their mandate and in accordance with the *Veterans Act*, (Act 2 of 2008).

Activity 13: Activities of the Appeal Board

Section 40 of the *Veterans Act* (Act 2 of 2008) provides for the establishment of the Appeal Board. The functions of this Board among others, is to hear appeals from any person who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Veterans Board.

I, therefore, request this august House to approve the request of **One Million Namibia Dollars (N\$1,000,000.00)** to enable the Appeal Board to execute its function during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

PROGRAMME 2: LIBERATION STRUGGLE HERITAGE

One of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs is to ensure that the history of the National Liberation struggle is kept alive for the present and future generations to know and appreciate the purpose of the struggle and those who contributed to it.

Keeping the liberation struggle history alive will be done through research,

documenting, storing and preserving the information and or materials of the liberation struggle. The project will also include the identification of specific areas where monuments, buildings or any marks that have any connection with the liberation struggle can be erected and/or preserved as stipulated in Section three of the *Veterans Act* of 2008. In order to undertake these tasks, the Programme needs **Eleven Million, Four Hundred and Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$11,405,000.00)** for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

PROGRAMME 3: COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The main objective of this Programme is to ensure an enabling and conducive environment and to improve performance culture in the Ministry.

Activity 1: Capacity Building

To enhance the capacity of staff members for them to effectively and efficiently deliver services to veterans of the liberation struggle, an amount of **One Million, One Hundred and Seventy Five Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$1,175,000.00)** is requested for this Activity.

Activity 2: Monitoring and Evaluation

The Ministry conducts periodical monitoring and evaluation of individual veterans' projects in order to ensure that the veteran's projects are sustainable and progressing. An amount of **Five Hundred and Eighteen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$518,000.00)** is requested to execute this Activity.

Activity 3: Veterans Sensitisation

The Ministry embarks on information sharing with veterans about the Ministry's Programmes. For this Activity an amount of **Six Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$600,000.00)** is requested.

18 April 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 31**
HON DR IYAMBO

Activity 4: General Administrative Services

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

An amount of **Twenty Five Million, Two Hundred and Twenty One Thousands (N\$25,221,000.00)** is requested for the Ministry to carry out this Activity.

Activity 5: Personnel Expenditure

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

An amount of **Fifty Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty One Thousand (N\$58,981,000.00)** is requested to cater for this Activity.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, it is against this background that the Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Vote 31, is being presented to this Honourable House and I am requesting the support and approval from you Honourable Members for the amount of **Eight Hundred and Sixty One Million One Hundred and Ninety Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$861,190,000.00)** for the 2013/2014 Financial Year. I anticipate of your full support. Thank you for your attention.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you very much indeed. Honourable Members, a piece of information – we have completed the Motivation exercise, we are now just about to start the process of discussing the Votes as listed before you. In order to be fair to all, we need to agree on the time for each Member's intervention. This is vital for the Chairperson, so that I am not going to be accused of favoring X or Y. I think it is vital that we agree, is it 2 or 5 minutes? I would say maximum 5 minutes and those who would like to speak for a minute or 2 we agree to that. *D'acoord?*

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON SHIXWAMENI

Any objection? Agreed to.

Vote 12 – **“GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE”** for Discussion. Honourable Shixwameni.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise to support Vote 12, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare. I have three items that I would like to talk about. The first one is on the Income Generating Activities of the Ministry, having gone around this country and speaking to senior social workers and community activators of the Ministry; you realize that the money that is dedicated to supporting the Income Generating Activities Programme is very little. We were briefed at some point in time that each Region gets N\$30,000. Take N\$30,000 for a Region like Omusati who can you exactly support with that amount? I think there is a need to coordinate the activities of the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare with those activities sponsored, like the Ministry of Trade and Industry and other Ministries that are sponsoring Income Generating Activities in the Regions. To give a group of women or men an amount of N\$2,000 for an Income Generating Project is truly a joke. If we are serious about realising Income Generating Activities we need to give them money that would make their projects sustainable.

We need to pool the money so that when people apply for a project we give them money that will be able to let the project take off, instead of just giving the money for the sake of giving the money so that we can report to Parliament that, *‘we have given N\$2,000 to Group A or Group B’*. That is a joke!

On the same page, Page 4 – I do not know when the Minister is saying that they have over 150 Early Childhood Development Centers, two from each Constituency. I will once again come back to the issue of equality, the Regions and the Constituencies are not equal. Take the Samora Machel Constituency, for example, there are so many children around that small portion of Havana and now you compare them to the Katutura

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON SHIXWAMENI

Central Constituency. You take two from Katutura Central and two from Samora Machel, however, Samora Machel has a bigger population. It is, therefore time that we should look at these things, it is not just a question of equality for the sake of equality. Let us give those with a higher population something more and those with a lesser population something less.

However, I would like to call for the standardisation of each Childhood Development Center. Pre-primary schools are very important in our education system, because without a strong foundation, children will not always struggle when they go to primary schools or secondary schools. I, therefore, hope that the Minister will be able to expand this Programme of Early Childhood Development Centers in conjunction with the Ministry of Education to make sure that we do not only have over 150 centers in the country, but so that at least for every primary school there is an Early Childhood Development Center nearby, standardized, up to date and make sure that the teachers teaching our young ones are really teaching them and not cheating them. ECDs should not be for singing, because at EDCs in the location, children are just taught songs most of the time. They should really learn numeracy and literacy in order to empower them when they go to primary school.

My last point is on Gender-Based Violence; I think we need to roll out a nationwide campaign like the Nation Pride Campaign. I would like to congratulate the Minister for organizing the dinner at the Hilton Hotel the other day, where various speakers took the Floor on Gender-Based Violence. However, it should be a conscientisation process that should not only be aimed at women, educating them on how they should stand up and defend themselves against their men. It should be a national campaign that will involve both women and men, conscientise them and take them to schools so that the children learn about Gender-Based Violence and how to avoid it right at school. With those few remarks, I thank you Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Well done, thank you. Honourable Manombe-Ncube, please.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON MANOMBE-NCUBE

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. First and foremost, allow me to thank the noble efforts taken by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare in a quest to achieve the gender equalities in our society and also to curb out the giant problem of Gender-Based Violence under the leadership of Honourable Minister, Comrade Nghidinwa as well as her Deputy, Comrade Angelika Muharukua. Thank you, very much for those noble efforts.

I am going to Page 13 of the Minister's Speech on the National Gender-Based Violence Plan of Action of 2012-2016. This is another beautiful document, Honourable Minister, with very good initiatives and well-set strategies, however, I urge and hope that it would be implemented and become a reality. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Gender issues will always support and stand behind you. Honourable Minister, within the framework of the same document, it mentions the research and I would like to implore this Ministry to carry out this research nationwide and in depth. I would also be glad if during the research you will also interview the perpetrators to find out why they are doing this. Apart from alcohol abuse being one of the factors contributing to this heinous crime, there could be other reasons why they are doing this. I do not really want to say inferiority complex is one of the factors, but it could be from both, men and women suffering from that. Let us also hear what the psychologists are saying about these perpetrators.

On Page 16 of the Minister's Speech on Climate Change – this has an inevitable impact on gender relations, especially in rural communities. Honourable Minister, my hope and aspirations is that these allocated funds would be used to boost the resilience of women in rural areas. These women are already disadvantaged by traditional inequalities. We should also consider the vulnerable people from those communities.

I would also like to praise the Minister for the gesture of mainstreaming this gender climate change in the Programmes of the Ministry. It is highly commendable. What is the statistics of women and vulnerable people who benefited from this fund in the past? With these few remarks, Honourable

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON LIMBO / HON MOONGO

Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I support the Vote.

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

HON LIMBO: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, I would like to say that most of my contribution was covered by my Colleague over there and that shows that we think alike in our Committee. My emphasis is on the issue of research – this was supposed to be done *yesterday* so that this Nation would be able to tell why our men and some of our women are so angry. There must be something driving these people to do what they are doing, because sometimes a person will rape a child and then commit the same crime again after several years. I implore you Honourable Minister to start with this research immediately, so that we will be able to understand because we are now treating the symptoms, we do not know the causes of these problems. At the end of the day we will spend money, we have been talking, policies are written, however this problem still persists. I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON MOONGO: Thank you, very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. First of all, allow me to congratulate the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare for sheltering and protecting those married women who are sufferers of domestic violence. That is a good move, however, I wonder whether men can also be protected under the same Programme, as there are men who suffer from domestic violence in our villages. We do not know how to

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON MOONGO

advice these men to go for assistance because these offices are not well decentralized.

I would, therefore, suggest that the Ministry gets more funding to be able to decentralize these offices to other Regions. (Intervention)

HON KAPIA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I just want to ask Honourable Moongo a small question. If I understand you correctly, you are saying the men in the community there do not know where the offices are. As a Chief in your community how do you advice these men to know about these offices?

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

HON MOONGO: That is the reason why I wanted to know from the Minister how we can find the offices in different towns and villages, because we only know about the Police Protection Unit and we always end up there. However, we do not have more information on a more suitable place where men can be protected by the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare. I therefore, appeal to the Minister to give us information countrywide. I currently feel that women are more protected than men in this regard, because men do not come forth to admit that their spouses are abusing them. They are even deprived of food and many other things. Sometimes the wives lock their husbands outside the rooms and they end up stranded. With this I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON WITBOOI / HON SWARTZ

HON WITBOOI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support my mother, Mama Africa. I commend the Honourable Minister for the provision of the Early-Childhood Development subsidies in the form of monthly allowances to the kindergarten teachers. It there where they lay the foundation of our children. As we visited the Regions we found this to be a very big concern. People are delivering services under very difficult circumstances. I believe this will encourage them to do their work.

Secondly, Comrade Minister I wholeheartedly support the Ministry for the effort to conduct an in depth research on Gender-Based Violence to identify the root causes of this. Something must be done and as leaders we must take the lead, just like Honourable Shixwameni mentioned, the Ministry has started with the Programme and we are ready for you. I suggest that we go out to the grass root people and where we will find the root causes of our problem.

As this Motion is already on the Table of the House, I will not elaborate on it, we will have time then to express our views. With this I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you so much. Honourable Swartz.

HON SWARTZ: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Most of my Colleagues already talked about the ECD Programmes from the Ministry. However, I would like to thank our Government for the efforts it has made for our poor people in different communities. A month ago we read in the newspapers about the Lutheran Kindergartens that will close down due to a lack of funds. We must also look at those communities, for example, we have kindergartens in Keetmanshoop, Grunau and Noordoewer as well as other Regions. We

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON BEZUIDENHOUDT

must, therefore, assist these communities in the future.

The other thing I want to mention is Gender-Based Violence, like Honourable Witbooi said – the root cause of this violence against women. I would like to suggest to our Honourable Minister that instead of hosting events on Gender-Based Violence at either Safari Court or Hilton Hotel, we should take it to the places where Gender-Based Violence takes place, for example, Okahandja Park. We must go to the people and meet our people on the ground, talk to them, make them understand and raise awareness. We can also organize workshops with all the stakeholders and then we would be able to do more in the future. Thank you, very much. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you so much. Honourable Bezuidenhoudt please.

HON BEZUIDENHOUDT: Thank you very much, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would strongly support the Vote of Gender Equality and Child Welfare. One question to the Minister – can the Minister give us an indication as to when we can expect to receive the *Children's Act*? The *Children's Act* for some protection and defining the rights of children so that we also have a legal framework when it comes to children. The idea of an Atlas of vulnerable children and orphans would be very good and I am looking forward to that Atlas so that we can really see where the concentrations of orphans and vulnerable children in order to specifically target those areas with support and intervention Programmes.

The same goes for the zero-tolerance campaign on Gender-Based Violence, human trafficking and baby dumping. Through information gathering we can hopefully create lead points in the country to know where each of these above-mentioned violations are mostly prevalent. This will enable us to target resources and campaigns for those specific areas where the prevalence is higher than other Regions while we keep on educating the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

others. This was my small contribution and I really support the Vote of the Minister. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. I have concluded my list and I now call upon the Honourable Minister to respond.

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

Honourable Shixwameni thank you very much for your support. You raised concerns that the funds allocated to the Income Generating Activities Programme are not enough. I agree with you and that is why the Ministry would like to help women organize themselves in groups so that we can engage the Ministry of Trade and Industry to give them more financial assistance to sustain their projects. That is our plan and we have already started consultations with the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

On the **Early Childhood Development Programme** – like I mentioned in my Motivation Speech yesterday, this function would, through NDP4, be transferred to the Ministry of Education as per the wishes of the National Conference on Education that was held here in Windhoek. However, before the transfer can take place we have training Programmes in place for teachers and caregivers. The example I gave of two ECDs per Constituency is only a pilot Programme on the new standard of the **Early Childhood Development Programme**. This pilot Programme will continue until the transfer of this function to the Ministry of Education.

Gender-Based Violence – As I mentioned earlier in my speech, it is one of our priorities to have the national campaign during this Financial Year. We have already started consulting all the stakeholders, firstly with the Ministry

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 12
HON NGHIDINWA

of Safety and Security, Women Parliamentarians, churches and youth organizations. We also want to include taxi drivers and bus drivers, as we do not know who dumps the bodies at Goreangab Dam. Traditional Leaders and people at the grass root level would also be included in this campaign so that we can all speak with one voice against Gender-Based Violence.

Honourable Manombe-Ncube, thank you very much for your support. During the in depth research we will also include all the stakeholders, starting with us here because we cannot only focus on people at the grass root level, Okahandja Park, Havana etcetera, Gender-Based Violence affects us all. The research will include everyone because Gender-Based Violence is not only physical, it can be psychological as well. There are men who are also victims of GBV but are silent.

Statistics – I think I mentioned this in my speech as well. We indicated how many women benefited from the fund during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. However, I will come back to the House with detailed statistics showing how many women in total benefited from this Programme since its inception.

Honourable Limbo, I already said that research is one of our priorities during this Financial Year and we have already consulted with different stakeholders to come up with questionnaires, and like I said everybody would be included.

Honourable Moongo, Gender-Based Violence is a national issue and not only for the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare or Government. It includes everybody even Traditional Leaders, we must work together and see what takes place in our villages. However, you are worried about men not reporting Gender-Based Violence or going for counseling. Yes, I agree with you, men do not really open up when it comes to these things because of their egos, but they are starting to open up now due to all these campaigns. However, where they go for safety I cannot tell you now because it is a secret. If I tell you where abused men go for shelter you will start intimidating them, but we do have places at

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON KAURA

Regional and Constituency levels, churches, social workers and pastors. People can freely go to one of these places for help.

Thank you, *Honourable Witbooi* for your support. I already mentioned that the research would include people at the grass root level because those are the people who migrate to urban areas and later become victims of GBV.

Honourable Swartz, thank you also for your support. I will follow up with the technical people and come back to you on the issue of the Lutheran Church Kindergartens that have been closed down.

Thank you very much *Honourable Bezuidenhoudt*, on the *Children's Act* we have the *Child Protection Bill* in the pipeline that will be brought here to the Chamber for discussion and support. Baby dumping is also part of Gender-Based Violence and would be addressed during our awareness campaigns. However, it is our responsibility as parents to talk to our children about the importance of the lives of their babies, that they also have rights. We should also talk about teenage pregnancies and all the other factors contributing to baby dumping in Namibia. I thank you very much for your support.

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

Vote 20 – “**AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY**” put for Discussion. Honourable Kaura, please.

HON KAURA: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Tjihuiko tabled a Motion on the issue of water debt along the pipelines in the eastern water carrier stretching

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON UUTONI

all the way up to Ohangwena. That water debt is still standing there and nothing has been done to it. This was presented to you by way of a Committee that went to look at all these things and came with a recommendation and the recommendation was to write off those water debts. It was given to the Honourable Minister, but up to now the water debts are still there, nothing has been done about it. I want to find out about that.

Secondly, dealing with this drought situation we are facing now; people in communal areas are receiving N\$400 per cow, when they sell a cow. When His Excellency was here, my request was that that must be extended to all animals, whether it is heifer, a bull, an ox or whatever the case may be. This is only limited to communal areas, but in the Commercial Farming Sector there are about 200 farmers coming from the previously disadvantaged group and are not included in this N\$400 per livestock. My request now is that; for every livestock a person is selling including goats and sheep, a certain amount must be allocated for the sale of that livestock. It must not be confined to cows in particular, it must be extended to all livestock, whether heifer, bull, ox etcetera. That is my request and I requested His Excellency, the President to extend it, and so far the people, especially in the Commercial Farming Sector or Communal Farming Sector are only selling cows for that amount, but are getting nothing for any other animal. Could the Honourable Minister do something about it? Thank you very much.

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

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

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON UUTONI

My question is on Page 13 of the Motivation Speech, before that, I would like to congratulate the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry on the construction of the fresh produce hubs in the towns of Rundu and Ongwediva. That is a commendable effort and I am suggesting to the Honourable Minister that these institutions should not stand there idly, but should be utilised to their fullest. A mobilization drive should be conducted in the community to make people aware of these institutions.

On Page 13 as I have indicated, on 3.1.6 – Honourable Minister you said the effort of your Ministry is to enhance the quality of livestock in the country by developing a livestock scheme referred to as the Provision of Livestock Breeding Material directly to communal farmers. It is also a good effort, but Comrade Minister I have learnt that in this country, especially when it comes to veterinary clinics there are no ambulatory vehicles. In cases of emergency these ambulances are driven to places where you have an injured animal. Let me give an example of a farm owner who has a pregnant cow which cannot deliver on its own and needs medical attention, in the absence of the State veterinary ambulances this farmer has to run around to get his cow to a veterinary clinic bearing all the costs.

Therefore, Honourable Minister, I would like to request that we allocate one or two ambulances to every Region during the next Financial Year. I am referring to trucks suitable to load animals. Honourable Minister, I am also proposing that the State veterinary clinics have enough medical supplies, because currently there is a shortage of medicine. We are mostly referred to private pharmacies and the medicine there is very expensive. The other thing I have observed is the lack of fodder in veterinary hospitals. We are required to take our own fodder to feed the animals whilst they are admitted to hospital. With this Honourable Minister, I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON IILONGA

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for giving me the Floor to contribute to our Vote, the Vote for part-time farmers and those who are farming on a daily basis. Firstly, I would like to thank the Minister and his team at the Ministry I just left four months ago.

I would like to start with Programme 3.2 – the **Water Programme**, this is a very important Programme, especially during this time of drought. We have three water reservoirs along the main road between Ondangwa and Omuthiya that can be constructed into facilities that would alleviate the problem of bulk water supply. In any pipe system, when pipes are damaged at the back of the system, everybody in front is cut off, but if we have those reservoirs they can still have a certain number of days in which to do the repairs. This could be costly, but it is important that we look into that.

The connection of community water points is also problematic because of this plastic water dam. You will find that instead of this water tank serving as a reservoir it is placed behind instead of being placed in front where the water could first enter the water tank and receive some pressure. I used to speak to the officials when I was there and I will continue doing that.

The other issue is the *etaka*, Honourable Minister, we build these beautiful facilities like the Fresh Produce Hubs to keep our produce for a specific period, but there is no water. There are many farmers who are producing but they experience water shortage, maybe it is because of the drought and Honourable Minister you may recall sending me to award some of these farmers for their outstanding harvests, however, they are now just standing idly. We also need to look into the plight of these farmers. Another remedy would be for us to look into sharing water with our neighbours so that we can aggressively go on irrigation, because there is no other way, given the drought we are facing.

Honourable Minister, there is a need for strict control over the N\$400 per cow that communal farmers receive when they sell their cows, for example, auctioneers will pay N\$4,000 for a cow valued at N\$4,000, reasoning that its price is N\$3,600 and they add the N\$400 on top of that. Therefore, there

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON SHIXWAMENI

must be clarity that this N\$400 must not be added to the price of the animal, but it must be paid separately at the end of the transaction.

Finally, Honourable Minister, I would like to comment on ground water – I really do not know why information on the semi-desalination plant is not shared. I remember that you sent me to inaugurate the Amarika and *Akutsima*, the Cuvelai Project, which was sponsored by Germans. Let us test whether this pilot project will produce more water and if it does then we will not need any pipes to bring water from far. Namibia has plenty of salt water that can be used. Thank you, I support the Vote.

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

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson. I have five quick points. I would like to congratulate the Honourable Minister and his whole staff for a job well done over the years, especially for the Green Schemes and the Hubs. I must also congratulate you for the Communal Land Farmers Support Programme; that is a good programme for our communal farmers who are the majority in this country.

Two quick things: The first one is the water problem; there was an Act of Parliament that was passed sometimes back called the *Water Management Act*, I am maybe wrong, but it is not yet implemented in full and appears to be held up by the bureaucracy in the Ministry. What exactly is holding the implementation of the particular Water Act so that we can manage our water resources properly?

Secondly, related to water is the issue of boreholes. I must commend the Ministry for the solar-powered boreholes I have seen during my travels to Ohangwena Region, Okavango Region and some parts of Omusati. However, there are problems with the boreholes, when they break, it

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON DR AMWEELO

sometimes takes up to 6 months for the technicians to go and fix the water pumps. In the meantime the villagers have to travel kilometers to other villages to fetch water, or dig traditional wells. I think it needs to be explained to the Nation as to what is the problem. Is the problem with the Department of Works that even for the bulb they can take up to six months to come and fix the bulb? We should maybe look at how we can resolve this particular problem.

The third one is the Ohangwena Abattoir which was on the news last year, maybe the Honourable Minister would be able to provide an update to this House as to how far we are to exploit that wonderful resource to the benefit of our people. On Page 17 – why is the sanitation strategy only available in 9 Regions? Is it because of money shortages and which Regions are they going to be in?

On Page 16, 3.2.9 – the Piping of Water; I must commend you for taking this particular initiative, but two years ago I asked about the water alongside the tarred road from Rundu to Mururani and you added that in fact it was a plan to do the same, to build a tunnel alongside the tarred road from Rundu to Divundu. What exactly happened to that particular plan because people who are living alongside the river where water can be pumped from are suffering from drought? I think it needs to be incorporated in your plan so that the people living alongside the tarred road between the two areas can also benefit from the water plan. Thank you.

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

HON DR AMWEELO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, I would like to join others in thanking the Honourable Minister. I only have one issue, since

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON A TJONGARERO

Honourable *Ekanda* mentioned a number of things I wanted to say.

On Page 15, Point 3 3.2.5 – Quantification on Ground Water Resources Project; this is a very good project and Honourable *Ekanda* also mentioned that there is a study that was conducted by German scientists where they found a reservoir of groundwater near Ohangwena B. They cautioned us to be careful when we are extracting the water and urged us to follow the recommendations carefully. Therefore, Honourable Minister I propose that we follow the recommendations of this project instead of going for the whole country because I am very concerned about climate change. Groundwater evaporates into the atmosphere we, the scientists say that there will be no rain in 20 to 30 years and this will affect, not only Namibia, but the whole world due to global warming and that is why I am saying that we should consider the project that is already in place and put up the methodologies to extract water.

Namibia is quite a big country, we can construct a pipeline that will pump water in a big earth dam to be based in our desert. By doing that we can survive for 20 to 30 years without rain. Thank you, Honourable Minister. I support the Vote 100%.

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

HON A TJONGARERO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Minister and his staff for a job well done.

My comment is on Page 1, point 2.1.2, where the Minister is saying the development of the irrigation project is going well, thank you for that. I have only got one question; during our visit to Rundu last year we paid a visit to some of the irrigation schemes there and the people are really

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON UEITELE

producing. The only problem there is the silos, when is the Ministry going to put up the silos there so that the people can store their produce? I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON UEITELE: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also rise to support Vote 20, “**AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY**” and my contribution is on Page 14, point 3.2 – Water Programme: Honourable Minister, the Ministry is doing well, but just like Honourable Shixwameni mentioned, it can take up to 6 months to fix a faulty borehole and apparently the reason is that the Regional Offices do not have the parts to repair the engines or the pipes. I understand that the Economising Committee has to sit first before a part can be bought. I do not understand these Economising Committees as I thought that the process of decentralization was to take the services to the people. However, if we have to wait for the Economising Committee at central Government to sit, which could end up not sitting due to a lack of quorum, the people could end up without water for longer periods of time. Therefore, Honourable Minister I suggest that we provide enough parts for Regional Offices. Even for a nozzle to be bought, one have to wait for the Economizing Committee in Windhoek to sit and deliberate over a nozzle, that is honestly not fair.

My other concern is the water lines in the *omikundas*, I have realized that if one person in the community fails to pay for his/her water bill then the whole water gets disconnected affecting those who paid for their water. Can we not make a provision whereby everyone pays for his own line or water meter? With these few comments, Honourable Minister, I support the Vote. Thank you.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUHARUKUA

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to talk about the Kunene Vote; this Vote 20 belongs to the Kunene Region. Most of the previous speakers before me including Honourable Ilonga said what I wanted to say; I do not know where to start.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Minister, some of our leaders here went to the border post at Oloditi to mobilize people to bring cattle from Angola to Namibia and I would like to ask them not to do that. There are people who are complaining because some of you here tell the people there not to accept anything from Government. Some of you Ministers must start doing things like the SWAPO Government Ministers and stop listening to them.

People from Kunene Region are refusing for their cattle to get ear tags because there are people from Government who are advising them not to. I listened to Honourable Kaura talking about his concern for his people in Okondjatu getting water, what about the other communities? It does not work like that. I would like us all to recognize this Government, there was the Interim Government here before Independence and we used to listen to them, but we do not want to listen and recognize the real Government. When we talk about development we (intervention).

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: On a Point of Information. Honourable *Oshakati*, are you aware that the same Honourable Members here who buy ear tags for their cattle, because they cannot sell their cattle without it, are the same people who tell the communities out there not to put ear tags on their cattle?

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MWANINGANGE

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD

WELFARE: Thank you Honourable *Oshakati Popya*, I am aware of that. In Kaoko people are refused ear tags. However, Ngatjizeko already received these from Government, if I want to sell my cattle, I run to Ngatjizeko during the night and ask him to help me, where he request payment after helping me. Honourable Minister, that is why I say, do what you can do as a Government because these are your people. There are a few things people from Okaoko do without the ideas originating from them.

The next thing is the Dam Project at *Orokawe*, which is going to provide water to the whole northern region. This project will take about six years to be completed, to avoid that people from suffering while waiting, can we not in the meantime build a pipe that will bring water from Ruacana to Opuuo? Thank you. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Mwaningange, please.

HON MWANINGANGE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, may I join others in congratulating the Honourable Minister, his Deputy and the entire Ministry for a job well done to come up with this Vote that I believe touches all of us because water is life and food for all. Like others before me, I would also like to contribute to the Water Programme. There is one specific issue where I have a question as well as a comment on my own understanding. I feel that an issue has been left out from the Programme, maybe indirectly, and that is the earth dams and water catchments in some parts of our country.

When there is a severe drought like the one we are experiencing this year, and you have proper catchments of water in the dams it would substitute

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON TJIHUIKO

the other water, especially the clean water. We know that water from earth dams is not purified, but it is useful to humans and animals. I am saying substitute to clean water and treated water because if we have less catchment water stocks are likely to deplete this treated water. At the same time when there is rain, earth dams in the area where water congregates, especially within the Cuvelai deltas, parts of Oshana, Ohangwena and Oshikoto can be managed by keeping some water and allowing some to pass to the *etaka* at Okashana in Etosha. The water that remains can be useful. One natural element is that rain formation does not only come from other sources but it also comes from water evaporation and transpiration and those who specialise in that will agree with me. Water evaporation does have influence on rain. It forms clouds and those clouds come back in the form of rainfall. We must, therefore, be very careful when talking about water evaporation or transpiration from trees because those are natural gifts from God. I wholeheartedly support the Honourable Minister in his efforts, including the construction of the Neckartal Dam. Thank you very much. I support the Vote.

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

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me start by congratulating the Minister for a job well done. I was impressed with this Motivation when I was looking at it, not only did you raise critical points, but you started by giving us write ups on what you have done with the money you received last year. That is what we always expect to hear from presentations.

Let me take you to Page 7, Honourable Minister; I just want to state one or two things on the green scheme. I am a little worried about our green scheme, I have been there two or three times and saw the good job our

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON TJIHUIKO

Government is doing there – quality products that are being produced. However, I am a bit worried about the market, we seem to be frustrated by the conditions that are not very much beyond our control, but what we need to look at. Honourable Minister, I saw what happened in South Africa during the truck drivers' strike and the criticism that was leveled against the Namibian Government, but I was sure the issue was not because the Government was doing nothing. All those products that we are importing from South Africa are also being produced here, the problem that we have here Honourable Minister is the fact that all the supermarkets here are branches of South Africa. Their products are being sourced from Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town and are being transported here. If you want to buy tomatoes, for example, – it does not mean that we do not have tomatoes here at Etunda, it is simply because they do not buy from Etunda, they do not buy from us. I do not want to sound like a socialist, but we need to look at measures where, for instance, a certain percentage of agricultural products should be sourced from Namibia. I am sure that the role Government is not to run these things but to create a conducive environment, and environment at the present moment is not conducive. I am not preaching that the Government should interfere, but what I am trying to say is that the Government must come in to create a conducive environment for us as a Nation to be able to say the day that the truck drivers in South Africa go on strike, at least 40% of the basics that we could find on the shelves of the supermarkets would be there because we have created that environment.

Honourable Minister, maybe we will be forced to regulate and say, yes indeed we are in a free-market economy, but 40% of certain products should be sourced from Namibia. That is what I wanted to suggest Honourable Minister, because we are being completely frustrated by these supermarkets. You cannot go to a supermarket today and see Namibian products on the strategic shelves of the store, they are always at the back, rotting there. The argument is that the quality of Namibian products is not up to standard, which I do not think is the case. When I was at the Ministry of Trade and Industry I remember there was a situation where certain products were transported from Namibia to Cape Town to be graded and when they are graded in Cape Town they are good enough to get the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MOONGO

priority shelf in the supermarket. I think these are some of the things we need to look at.

That is what I wanted to mention Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I wanted to get deeper into that, but due to the time factor let me quickly conclude by touching on one last point. It is on Page 14 – and it is on Water; for the drought situation that we are facing now, I believe that the best option for the rural communities to have access to water is through the NamWater pipes. The drilling of boreholes is too expensive and if you look at the cost that we put in for 3 or 4 boreholes that are not successful, it will be more than bringing this water through NamWater.

In conclusion, Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I am also worried about this water canal from the Oshakati area to Ruacana, Honourable Minister I just want to know, how clean is that water? Is that water being used for human consumption, animals or washing? Once I stopped over there and looked at the water and it did not seem up to standard to be used for human consumption. With that I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON MOONGO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. First of all I would like to thank the Government of Angola for allowing our animals to graze there without facing any harassment or problems. I would also like to thank the Traditional Authority around Etosha and the Regional Councilors there who allow cattle from Oshikango to graze there. This area is overcrowded with cattle from Oshikango and Ohangwena. It is very impressive how the Headmen, the Chiefs and the Councilors are cooperating in welcoming these cattle there. It is really packed there, like flies and it is turning into a crisis, I want you to go there. I advice you to take a plane so that you can have a

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON AMATHILA

better view from above.

I would like to appeal to the Government to reduce the grazing population at Etosha Pan (intervention)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Point of Information, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. When some Members are speaking, they are asked page numbers while they do not ask the Traditional Authority for page numbers. What is the position in this regard?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Please do continue, because of time.

HON MOONGO: Thank you. Colleagues, I am appealing to the Government to reduce the population of animals which are over grazing so that the cattle from Oshana can also take part in sharing the grass in Etosha. Reduce the number of wolves, hyenas and jackals that are killing our cattle and goats. We can also reduce some kudus and elephants and distribute their meat to those affected by drought. Thank you.

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

HON AMATHILA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON AMATHILA

Whole House Committee. I am obliged to say this even if it sounds like a repetition. I raised this issue during the Prime Minister's Vote and I was advised to raise this matter with the Minister of Agriculture. I support Vote 20 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry very much. It is a Vote that has a promise and prospect to give jobs and to help our people help feed themselves. It is a Vote to be supported by all of us.

The issue that I wanted to raise is the question of the drought and we did no plan for this. When I was talking to the Vote of the Prime Minister, I indicated that when it comes to the grazing and the effort to feed our animals because of the poor rains we are advised to sell our animals which is a very perfect thing to do. However, selling our animals at all cost will render Namibia a terrible blow in the future. We are finding that our farmers are selling their animals at all cost to our neighboring countries and I am just afraid, Honourable Minister that our caliber animals, the seed and genetic material that we have may get lost to neighboring countries in the process because of the drought. I express my fear that in 1992 a similar situation occurred here when people were selling ostriches; they sold ostrich eggs and chickens because the prices were so good and they were smuggling these animals out of the country. We are now net importer of ostriches from outside and I am afraid that a similar situation will develop that our farmers sell their genetic material to other countries out of desperation and sometimes we have to try and buy these animals back at very exorbitant prices.

Honourable Minister, my request was that, apart from selling animals we could explore other avenues. One avenue is, if one goes to areas like Tsumkwe, there is plenty of grazing area there, people sometimes set fire to these grazing areas because that is one way of stopping other people from going there and partly because there is no water. If Comrade Minister takes it upon himself to try and look around the country and find reservoirs that we can call as fall-back position in cases of drought, places we can go to for those farmers to take ten or twenty of their breeding stock to rescue them from decimating during the drought. The Government can then take water to those areas because drilling is a very practical thing to do, but sometimes you have to drill 5 to 6 boreholes before you get a successful one and the cost becomes exorbitant. However, if the Minister can consider this

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON DINGARA

situation where in Tsumkwe, for instance, you have a very big reservoir, even in areas like the Daures Constituency and former Damara land there is a lot of grazing land, but the problem is water. The cost of acquiring water tanks to bring water to these areas and fencing

these areas off as reservoirs for the time of crises could be cheaper.

We can also talk to our Traditional Leaders to see to it that they have a national duty to perform by allowing other people who are under pressure to bring their animals there rather than setting these areas on fire. That could maybe be a fallback position in the future Honourable Minister, because we did not plan for drought this year and these things have not been put in the current Budget. However, we could start working towards identifying areas where people can take their animals to, not to permanently occupy those areas but to bring relief during drought. Thank you. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Amathila, as you spoke, you reminded me of my childhood, we used to roam around, from place to place during crises like drought. Honourable Dingara please.

HON DINGARA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to wholeheartedly support this Vote. I listened to the Honourable Minister during his Motivation Speech and I also read through the whole presentation and I am telling you Honourable Deputy Chairperson that this Ministry is well managed and has a very capable leader at its helm. Professor Totemeyer once said, "*all wisdom comes from God*", just to alert us that as human beings we do not add wisdom to others. When you see someone with wisdom to lead, you must know that all that wisdom comes from God. He is a leader. I like the way he spoke as a Minister about that dam in the South. He spoke like a Government Minister and not like these church ministers and I like it. I

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON NAMBAHU

wish I could also speak like that, but God did not give it to me.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, there is nothing else to say except to support the Vote. I just did not want to sit without saying anything because I feel it from my heart. Thank you.

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I must congratulate the Honourable Minister for this nicely elaborated Budget Speech. I was not here during the Motivation of the Vote, however, after listening to my Colleagues I find that there are certain issues that I might make mention of like the decentralization of service provision, repairing of boreholes, etcetera.

Honourable Minister, I do not want to say the usual thing that I always say, but these problems have been identified a long time ago and that is the reason for the existence of Water Reviews and others. I do not want to sound as if I am quarreling because this is the point I always raise, maybe it has been mentioned somewhere as to what would happen to that *Water Bill*, but every time it comes up this Bill goes back. There were interests that were not really forthcoming during those days when we were drafting this Bill they did not want this Bill to see the light of day. I only get suspicious sometimes as to why it has taken so long while the water management of the country is as such, or does it mean that this interest has become entrenched and are able to sabotage the passing of the Bill. I can only think of that because it has been more than ten years now and this Bill keeps coming back and forth. I hope the Honourable Minister would do something in this regard so that we can finalise this.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON JANKOWSKI

The last point is on the protection of the informal meat vendors. The informal meat vendors are threatened by two things; the origin of the meat they sell can be suspected and it has been found that some poaching and cattle rustling in the farms are actually linked to these informal meat vendors. Instead of threatening this market, I think it is time we intervened to put protective measures to safeguard this Industry. There could be instances where a person would simply cut dried meat and sell somewhere in Otjiwarongo beside the street without us knowing where it has come. Can the authority go in and identify the origin of meat being sold by these traders? The time will come when we would want to close this whole Industry while there are those who are innocent and do not really steal this meat. This is simply to invite you, Honourable Minister to think about it because of the cattle theft.

The second point is on health issues; it is not sufficient for me to go buy *okapana* somewhere and to be told it is goat meat, it is kudu, etcetera. It could be something else, even Europe was failing to detect this horsemeat. I want to be able to know what I am eating. If there are cattle that are dying from a certain disease we must be able to trace, in order to make sure that meat does not come from the dumpsite of Windhoek. It is a health issue and I think between the Ministry of Health, the Police and the Ministry of Agriculture we can set up a joint operation to regulate this market for two reasons; to prevent cattle theft and to protect the health of our people. Thank you. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. We move rapidly to Honourable Jankowski please.

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I want to congratulate the Minister and his team for a job well done. Please allow me to ask a question. We know that

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON DR IYAMBO

Agriculture contributes towards the welfare of the Namibian Nation by developing the economy.

I am on Page 4, point 1.5 – **Focus of Resources**; has a feasibility study been carried out on the Oanob Dam? I plead with the Honourable Minister, if possible to include the Oanob Dam in the Green Scheme Project because it will help our people to enhance food security and job creation. I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Thank you, very much. I am the last and I am only standing up because I wanted one Colleague to ask the question, but since it was not asked I thought I should do so. First of all I support Vote 20. When you look at the work being done by the Ministry of Agriculture you will appreciate the very dedicated effort being carried out.

Honourable Minister, on the Technical Paper Page 79; it is a general question though, it is about the Artificial Recharge of the Windhoek Aquifer which I think is a positive forward looking way of the future, not knowing what might come, but you want to prevent this from happening. When you look through the study, this is being attempted to do whatever possible in all parts of the country. I remember it was about last year or the year before that in the Cuvelai Basin towards the *Omboga* side, efforts were also made where dams were excavated underground and water is being stored there. I do not know whether that water was purified or was to be stored in its raw form, but all the same, the effort was to see whether that water which is simply running to the *okashana* and being spoiled cannot be conserved and be used when needed. I just wanted the Honourable Minister to shed some light on whether there has been some positive result on the conservation of that water. Thank you. I support the Vote.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON IIVULA-ITHANA / HON KAPIA

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

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would also like to join the others in congratulating the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and his team for a job well done.

I know this Ministry is dealing with a host of issues, but I want to confine myself to the Water Extraction from the Kunene River. I think it was Honourable Tjihuiko who mentioned the water canal from Ruacana to Oshakati. I know that that water goes to Ogongo for purification before it is distributed for consumption throughout the entire northern region.

Currently there is no reservoir at Ogongo where the water is being processed; do you not think that we will face a disaster if for whatever reason we are unable to get water running through that canal to Ogongo? Can you imagine the whole northern region without water? If that possibility can be thought of, it also means that it can happen. Why can we not think in terms of creating a viable reservoir somewhere along that stream to capture the water for any eventuality? That is my question, but in case you have it in the pipeline let us also hear about it. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. This is an issue that is very familiar to the Chair and I wonder whether Honourable Kapia would like to comment on this. This was something that was reflected in one of the Committee Reports. Do you want to say something about it? I am sorry to impose on yourself.

HON KAPIA: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I withdrew because my contribution has

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

been mentioned already by one of my Colleagues. Honourable Iilonga almost touched on what Honourable Iivula-Ithana was asking. First of all, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security visited Orutjandja Dam in 2011 with the same concern raised by Honourable Iivula-Ithana. Honourable Minister, one of our Reports is reflecting this situation and we consulted NamWater and NamPower in this regard. Water security is a very serious concern and if we do not have any alternative as a country we are going to face it.

The situation may change anytime and if the Minister has not yet received this Report we will send it again. It contains detailed information on this whole situation. If the *etaka* does not have water, Ogongo Purification Plant is small, however, there is another Purification Plant at Oshakati that will contain purified water that goes straight to the consumer. There is no other storage facility where you purify and reserve and this water comes straight from Calueque into the purification plant and to the consumer. We should tighten our belts as a country because if something happens there, it would be the end. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. That concludes the list. I now call upon the Honourable Minister to respond to some of the specific questions.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson, Professor. I shall attempt to answer all the questions, not some. By way of an introduction one must state clearly that as Parliamentarians, we are dealing with many expectations, good expectations and aspirations of our people. However, we are also constrained that we have to respond to these expectations and aspirations within certain limitations as set out in this document that we are discussing and approving. Nevertheless, we cannot wish away even the expectations that we need to satisfy, maybe not ourselves, but those that will follow us. It is in that context that I shall attempt to answer the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

questions that were posed to me.

On the issue of the water debts, it is very easy to respond to this issue because the Hansards of this Parliament are there. I will not attempt to contradict what my predecessors, first starting from Honourable Helmut Angula, Honourable Dr Iyambo here and myself have said, which are recorded. It is true that this particular issue by way of Motions was brought to this Chamber. It is also true that this Chamber after deliberations, particularly when Honourable Tjihiuko introduced the Motion, we agreed to refer the matter to the Standing Committee on Economics, Natural Resources and Public Administration. It is also true that the Committee under the leadership of Honourable Amathila did report to this particular House. It is also true that prior to the tabling there were some discussions, I remember very well that our Chairperson now, also played a role between the Line Minister, the Mover and the Chairperson of the Committee and we approved the recommendations.

However, I also know very well that the recommendations that we approved, particularly through my response, it was clearly stated that the Government is overall concerned with the issue of water affordability, particularly by the poor citizens and residents of this country. Therefore, Government has already commissioned a study that will look into the feasibility of how Government would support those poor residents of this country and I also promised last year that during the course of September, that we, from the Ministry side, would be able to bring a submission to the Cabinet. I am able to report to the Namibian people through this Chairman that I did bring that submission on the subsidisation of water to the poor, to the Cabinet last year Cabinet deliberated on that submission and it was favourably considered. We are currently working out specific detailed aspects as to who the poor are and how they are going to be assisted. I can state here without fear of any contradiction that for sure, before the end of this year, the final submission will go back to Cabinet to deal with the issue of subsidisation of water to the poor.

On the issue of the writing off of debts; I do not think that there was a specific recommendation that said Government should write off debts, even

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

if we go back to that Report, but that Government should consider how to assist people who cannot afford paying their water bills and that is what we are dealing with.

I am not going to venture in giving a response to the N\$400 per cow in communal areas, that will probably not be the correct answer. *Honourable Kaura*, with all due respect if you can bear with me, I will have to find out the specific details how these things work and I will come back to you or during the next Session, maybe you can ask a specific question and I will give the facts because I do not want to confuse you on how this particular scheme works. However, you also said that you put the same request to His Excellency, the President, I am sure that the President responded and I cannot contradict what the President has responded to you.

Honourable Utoni, when I said that we are dealing with the aspirations of our people, particularly in this area of animal health we must appreciate that for so long the health status of our animals, especially north of the cordon fence was just an issue that was not at the center of Government Programmes. I am talking about before Independence in particular, if you talk about laboratories; the laboratory was just here in Windhoek, but we are now putting up laboratories, if you read my Speech under Livestock I did enumerate that the laboratory in Ondangwa will be a big one, but I should not tell things that will haunt me even after I leave this House. My Colleague, Honorable Kamwi, the day before yesterday was dealing with the health of our people and the Honourable Members will remember the questions that went to him on the health, the clinics, the distances and the ambulances that are not working. Therefore, for now we cannot promise here that tomorrow or the day after tomorrow we will also be able to have ambulances and trucks for our animals because that will haunt us, but certainly Honourable Utoni you have a point. While we are strengthening our animal clinics and so on, for now we would encourage the farmers to make an effort as they are doing now, and bring that particular animal to the veterinarian or otherwise call the veterinarian or technician to go to the farm to attend to the sick animal. That is what we can encourage our people to do now. One day, not during our time, our children and their children when they would be debating here maybe the situation would be

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

different. The same with the fodder for sick animals, even us as human beings, when we go to the hospitals we are encouraged to take our own food and beddings, that is to compliment what Government has, particularly in situations where a hospital does not have these things. Therefore, if I take my calf or cow, of course they do provide fodder in some places, but it is not too much, I as the owner can take some grass for my sick cow there.

Honourable Ilonga, you spoke from experience, you were with us. On the issue of the Water Infrastructure, reservoirs, as you know when you left, we were already dealing with this issue and I can report to this House and to the Namibian people that the new designs to accommodate these reservoirs are being considered. I think it was an omission and we have to deal with it now.

On the issue of private connections to be limited to water tanks instead of direct connections to pipelines, I agree with you there and again our technicians are looking at that, maybe not in the short term but we have those plans, we have identified those to be a shortcoming and we have to deal with it. You are also right about no water at *Eteka* and *Epalela*. I must inform this House that it is a problem and I received a very long convincing letter last week from the farmers there. These farmers are doing well, they are responding to the call of Government to produce vegetables, but because of no sufficient water it is a problem. However, I have referred this matter to the NamWater Board to look at the specific recommendations made by the farmers and report back to me. It will obviously require some money because the Report detailed everything and the technicians in our Ministry said this thing would be too expensive and I said, go and study it with the NamWater Board and come to me. When it comes to me within the Ministry, we will see what we can do with the available money. If there are aspects that we as the Ministry cannot fund we will bring these matters to Cabinet so that we plan how to deal with it in subsequent years because leaving it like it is right now, is not an option.

Honourable Shixwameni is not here, however, ***Honourable Nambahu*** also asked a question on the *Water Bill*. It is true that some times back the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

Water Bill was passed here and it became an Act. However, during the implementation of that Act in that form it was discovered that there were many things that could not practically be implemented. On the advice of the legal people we were advised to rewrite the Bill as such and we have made some progress; the Bill has already passed the Cabinet Committee on Legislation last year when Honourable Iivula-Ithana was still the Chairperson of that Committee. The Chairperson can maybe check with the clerks there, because my information has it that this Bill will be here during the next Session. It is not as if it is hidden somewhere, it is coming.

Several people asked about the Ohangwena Aquifer; it is true that some studies were done and positive announcements were made, but the scientists are still busy looking at some aspects of those findings and a public announcement will be made at an appropriate time. The findings that there is groundwater look good so far. However, at an appropriate time, in fact I must first brief the Cabinet and then the Parliament, definitely after the scientists have looked at all the aspects then we will make a public announcement.

The water alongside Rundu-Mururani; it is true and we have already completed the feasibility study. Currently people and animals in that area are being supplied with boreholes, however, looking at the explosion of the population, we have to proactively device some plans and, therefore, carrying of water through the pipelines is one of those plans and we have already started making the designs.

Honourable Amweelo, I think I responded to the groundwater. ***Honourable A Tjongarero***, I must first thank you and your Committee for visiting the irrigation projects. That is what we encourage leaders to do because when you are on the ground and you interact with those people who matter, you have a better appreciation of what is being done. You are also correct in saying that we do not have silos at all our projects, but if you read my statement and look at this Development Budget we are starting – we will put some silos at Etunda, Sikondo and Ndonga Linena on the scheme so that from the scheme you will have big silos in the Regions like in Katima Mulilo, Rundu and so on. We are already responding to that

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

need which is a genuine need. There are some provisions in this Budget already to start putting up the silos on the irrigation projects.

Honourable Ueitele, firstly, I am not going to be defensive here, in fact I am going to put a challenge, not to you, I think *Honourable Shixwameni* also raised this issue; it should really not take six months! It should not even take two weeks to respond when it comes to a part of a borehole. There must be a response and that response could either be, “*here is the spare part, repair the borehole*” or “*we still have to look for this spare part*”, so that the people know. If it is happening, and I am not saying it is not happening, then the staff members themselves as individuals are the culprits. They keep quiet, they do not do their work and some of them are bossy. We know them, including some from Omaheke Region. When people come, they are not in their offices or they are unfriendly towards the people, until people have to travel to Windhoek to come and see the Minister, then they start running around.

Therefore, I am saying it should be the responsibility of all us. Parliamentarians, you have an oversight function over the Executive, my telephone numbers and the cell phone is open. If something is being observed, like the President said here the other day, people are not helpful, call me, I know people who have been calling me. That is the way that we should respond to our people. Call me and I will call that particular official who is not responding. I will do so!

However, I must also add that the issue of water differs from Region to Region. I have a particular understanding of the problems in Omaheke Region, especially in the Otjombinde Constituency. When my Colleague was still with us, I had to send him to spend some days there and the problem there is that you can drill as much as you can, but you do not get the water. However, we are busy devising some plans, including for pipes possibly later, but when it comes to bureaucracy, the Economising Committee that you are talking about is obviously a necessary Committee – checks and balances must be there. They meet every Monday and when they meet, any request that comes from the Regions should be responded to. That is what they are doing here; I do not want to blame the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

Economising Committee here. I see some of the problems are the execution by the officials, those that are in the villages there who have to deliver the services to our people. All of us should supervise them, of course, I am the main supervisor, but I must get information and I will deal with those issues.

Honourable Members, *Honourable Muharukua* raised fundamental issues here, we might laugh here and there, but she raised a fundamental issue. She was specific, but I am going to be generic in my response. What Honourable Muharukua has said is correct, not only in Kunene, but maybe other Regions too. We are politicians here and sometimes we send contradictory information to our people. It is true! There is an issue of telling people *“do not to allow your cattle to be vaccinated against lung diseases, do not allow them to put ear tags, because they are putting these ear tags to take the cattle somewhere else”*. It is true, that there is a confusion when people take these messages from those leaders, how then can we blame these people? However, I must state that you may think that you can manipulate these people today, but tomorrow they will stand up and say, *“you led us into the dark”*. We have seen it with Independence, where people were told, *“do not join the NDF if you were SWATF”*. Therefore, I must really appreciate what Honourable Muharukua had stated. I must say I was general in my response, however, I must state that, what Honourable Muharukua had said, maybe not only in the Kunene Region, but we must check what messages we are taking to our Constituencies. Even when something is white, you want to convince people that it is red and it is not fair. I, therefore, agree with you Honourable Muharukua.

On the issue of getting the water from Ruacana through pipelines, I think it is a proposition that we need to look at. *Honourable Mwaningange*, if you look at the Development Budget Document, we have a Programme on earth dams. Of course, you will see that it is not in all the Regions where the earth dams are being constructed at the same time, but we have a Programme because we regard earth dams as very important, even now that we do not have the rain, it will come one day and we will need earth dams to contain the water.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

On Neckartal Dam; the Tender Board has finally decided and the work is on. I made an elaborate statement in Keetmanshoop conveying the information, which was well received; we hope the work will now continue.

Honourable Tjihuiko, you have a point, but I can only explain our plans in the Government on the issue of markets. It is true that some times back our produce from the production center had to go to other countries for sorting and packaging and back. The Government's response is the fresh produce hubs which are supposed to be distribution centers for sorting, packaging, storage and processing of our produce, then from there to supermarkets. With regard to the issue of a certain percentage of vegetables or horticultural products and even grains, it is already happening through the Agronomic Board. Through the Agronomic Board; *"you are not allowed to import when the product is locally available, you are compelled to buy 39% locally"*. It is already there and I can see that it will increase with the putting up of these fresh produce hubs.

On the proposal of putting up pipelines instead of drilling borehole – I think in a way you are right when you say that in some areas in this country the drilling of borehole is not sustainable. In such areas one has to look at other ways of transporting the water through pipelines. You are right in that regard, but we should not generalize it, there are certain areas where the boreholes are still appropriate response.

Cleanliness of the Canal Water – ***Honourable Iivula-Ithana*** also made reference to that. This water gets through purification plants at Ogongo and Oshakati before it is distributed for human consumption. However, we have also realized that the open canal as it is, has a lot of problems. As a SADC supported Programme we are looking into the feasibility of pipes from Calueque. That will also address the very fundamental issue of reservoirs. All these water infrastructures of the canal from Calueque were constructed a very long time ago, around the 1960's, therefore, if you look at the objectives why this canal was built, it is completely different to our objectives now. We must, therefore, make adjustments here and there to suit our situation today. The same situation applies to *Etaka*, because when it was constructed the objectives were also different then and that is why I

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

do not agree with my officials when I ask them, what are we doing to respond to the needs of the farmers and they tell me the capacity of the thing was designed in such a way; yes, but what are we doing to adjust what was designed then, in order to respond to our needs? That is what we should concentrate on; do not tell me that it was designed to only have one pump. If it was designed for one pump in 1960 and that one pump cannot respond to our needs in 2013, do you want to tell me now that I should go to the farmers and tell them; no, it was designed for one pump? Even this Parliament is being adjusted and expanded to respond to the needs of today. Our officials under our leadership should also be looking at that.

Although ***Honourable Moongo*** is not here, he also raised a fundamental issue just like Honourable Muharukua. Honourable President, please convey my message to the Vice President, I see that you are even tired. Central to the issues that Honourable Moongo has raised, both in relation to the grazing in Angola and to the many cattle in Etosha is the issue of pressure on the land particularly in the communal area. When you take that argument further you will see that central to it, is the issue of land in this country. That is why I do not want to go deeper into that, I am just saying that we as Lawmakers and politicians here should look into the issue raised by Honourable Moongo deeper. I support him and we all support the Angolan gesture as our neighbors. We have a problem and they are willing to assist us the same way we do when they have problems in other areas like schools, etcetera, but for how long? This issue will only be resolved when we deal with the land issue in this country. That is an issue for the whole Government. There are many activities taking place in communal land like conservancies, green scheme projects, game parks and many other things, so communal lands are under a lot of pressure and over populated. I can tell you in the long run the communal lands will explode. I am sorry to say it, but that is a reality that we have to look at.

I am not going to respond to the request of giving away part of Etosha, but in my response the message is clear to us as Lawmakers that we have a pressure on the communal land in our country. The explosion will come sooner rather than later if we continue with the attitude of restricting people to specific areas saying, "*you belong here and you belong there*".

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 20
HON MUTORUA

Honourable Amathila, I agree with you, however, I am going to be diplomatic in answering this question. The Head of State and Head of Government on more than two public occasions stated that the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry under the coordination of the Office of the Prime Minister, should get all the machinery in place to devise some ways and means to respond to the looming drought. I also know that about 3 weeks ago there was a submission to the Cabinet that detailed some immediate response to the drought issue, particularly with regard to providing drought relief food to people through the Disaster Risk Management Directorate in the Office of the Prime Minister. The Office of the Prime Minister with the involvement of other stakeholders, including our Ministry is working on a comprehensive drought assessment. When it is ready it will provide specific information and recommendation to the Cabinet on what the Government is going to do in the long run to deal with this drought in all its aspects including grazing, water provision, etcetera. I think it will be premature for me to say too much without the Report that will come to Cabinet through the Office of the Prime Minister. Once that Report comes, Cabinet will discuss it and then appropriate action will be taken and appropriate channels will be utilised to communicate those decisions to the general public. I hope I did not go overboard Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

Honourable Dingara, was simply congratulating his teacher when he was speaking. When I completed my studies as a teacher in 1985 and went to Rundu Secondary School to teach, he was in Standard 9. I appreciate your congratulations and I will make it part of my CV. Thank you very much.

Honourable Nambahu, I have already responded on the *Water Bill*, you may remember when we dealt with it at the Cabinet Committee. I can assure you that this Bill will be here during the next Session. I get your arguments on the protection of the informal meat and health issues, maybe my neighbor who deals with SMEs will assist us. I agree, it is a very important Sector. The health aspect is our responsibility through the Directorate of Veterinary Services. We inspect the origin and quality of products that are sold. However, on the question of regulation and registration of this important small Sector, I think this question can be

18 April 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON DINGARA**

repeated to my Colleague Honourable Schlettwein, the Minister of Trade and Industry.

Honourable Jankowski has made a very specific and constructive proposal, whether it is possible for us to look at the feasibility of getting agricultural activities around the Oanob Dam in Rehoboth. The Green Scheme is a Government Programme and its main objective is to increase food production using irrigation and because the Oanob Dam has water, there is nothing that prevents us through our engineers and experts to go and carry out a study to see whether it is feasible. I will come back to you at an appropriate time and give you feedback on the results.

Honourable Minister, I will whisper in your ear tomorrow regarding that underground water in the Cuvelai. Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Minister you did ask the front desk about that Bill. I wish to confirm that it is on the list that has been received, but the actual draft document is still to be received.

Any Objection? Agreed to. I now put Vote 19 – **“TRADE AND INDSTRY”** for Discussion. Honourable Dingara, please.

HON DINGARA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support this Vote and I want to add one thing. The Namibian people have been enjoying the import of second-hand cars from Japan and the rest of the world. We used to buy these cars from neighboring countries, register them in Namibia and pay Value Added Tax. Some people cheated and a lot of other things happened and hence Government decided to suspend the import of second-hand cars in December 2003. Therefore, the decision was effective from January 2004

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON DINGARA

and no cars older than 5 years were allowed into Namibia. The main reason for the suspension was for Government to investigate and to find the best way of importing these cars into the country. I suggest that the person who was tasked to carry out this investigation must be dismissed because it has taken too long. I think, according to what I am seeing the suspension did not work. (Intervention)

HON UEITELE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, can I ask my Colleague a question? Do you support the import of these cars or are you against it?

HON DINGARA: It is a good question. What I am trying to say is, although the announcement was made and the prohibition was effected, the same cars are still coming into the country through Botswana, from the information I have. People change our currency into South African Rand and travel to Botswana to buy cars. They pay VAT and register the cars in Botswana then they come back here with their cars. What I am trying to say is that we are losing out as Government and the people who are continuously traveling to Botswana to buy these cars are also losing out because in the end it is expensive if you add fuel, accommodation and all other expenses to get the car here. I think it will be better to allow the people, because it is still happening despite the suspension. (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Let the Minister answer that.

HON DINGARA: I would like to ask the Honourable Minister to lift this ban tomorrow so that it is allowed from tomorrow or next week for us to also enjoy it. Thank you.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON BEZUIDENHOUDT

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

HON BEZUIDENHOUDT: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to support the maiden Budget Speech by the Honourable Minister. The intentions of the institutions here are very good. The creation new of institutions as well as the institutions that are already there must be capacitated. It is totally on the right track.

The Diversification of our Economy and the Restructuring thereof: This is something that we must really go for because we cannot have all our Economic Sector's eggs in one basket. I, therefore, want to express my appreciation for the diversification as well as the legal framework to do everything necessary. The ratio between operations and capital is very good I must say.

On the **Consumer Protection Law:** Our consumers need protection because some businesses are not honest and they try to get to our consumers. Yesterday I received a call from a certain person and I invited the person to come and talk to the relevant Committee at Parliament. We need to get proper protection for our citizens so we do not allow chance takers to exploit our people.

The role, responsibility and the importance of the Namibian Competition Commission cannot be underestimated. It is the one that must regulate and ensure that we do not bring massive conglomerates in a small economy, where one person owns everything. We have one such company in the country which owns every distribution right of every possible vehicle product, building products etcetera. Those conglomerates turn into monopolies and exploit our people and that is why the Namibian Competition Commission and the *Consumer Protection Bill* will be very important. I will encourage you to pursue this good and clear diversification and the restructuring of our economy. Thank you.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON TJIHUIKO

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

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Minister, let me take you to Page 13, 2.1, it is on Small Business Development. Honourable Minister, let me start by saying that I am quite impressed by the Government efforts, through the Ministry of Trade and Industry to promote the good image of our country and that is commendable. We get a positive reaction from people everywhere we go upon hearing that you are from Namibia and this is because of the good image that you have built.

I am a bit worried that we have put a lot into the development of SMEs and I am seeing some challenges. I am not sure about the implications of South Africa being part of the BRICS and also being part of SACU which means that once the products come into South Africa through the agreement between the BRICS they become domesticated products and this means that they can move through the SACU member countries freely. I am not sure whether that kind of arrangement will not have an impact on our SME development. I just wanted the Honourable Minister to shed light on that possibility.

Honourable Minister, Secondly; I was impressed by what I have seen on television about the agreement between the SACU Heads of State. The Report was fairly impressive as well as what our Heads of State were trying to do. However, the information has yet to come through to us to know exactly what our Heads of State have agreed and how we should go about and benefit from that agreement. I think it will be crucially important if that information is released to the Public so that we can quickly make use of it.

Thirdly, Honourable Minister; I have seen nowadays that as much as we trying to create a global market there is a lot of protective measures through subsidies in many countries, including our big neighbour here. The

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON TJIHUIKO

products that are coming from our big brothers are being subsidized and that is why it makes it difficult for our small businesses to compete, you can talk about chicken, milk, etc. I know that we do not have resources but we should maybe investigate at the possibility of subsidizing certain products in the interest of the country.

Lastly, Honourable Deputy Chairperson is on the question of manufacturing, I have been thinking that Namibia being a small country with excellent infrastructure and democracy; are we really going to survive if we put our efforts in industrialization through manufacturing? Can we really compete successfully with the likes of South Africa, they way Angola is coming up and the day Zimbabwe's problem will be resolved? Are we really going to be able to compete? Honourable Minister; is there a possibility of turning Namibia into a trade and service center with our excellent infrastructure? (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER DEFENCE: Point of Order, Honourable Chairperson Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. May I ask Honourable Tjiuiko a question? Honourable Tjiuiko, you recall vividly that during the General Debate I indicated that Namibia is small in population, but big in size. Why can we not do the same as other small countries that managed to industrialize themselves? I gave you examples of South Korea and Great Britain which is just an island, but they managed to an extent of making even you recognize them. Why do you want to make your own country a dumping site like the former colonial regime was doing? That is why we are not developed. Are you not aware of that, Honourable Tjiuiko? As a former Deputy Director in that Ministry, you are now the one propagating that Namibia should be a dumping zone for all the producers and manufacturers!

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

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON NAMBAHU

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. That is a political statement. I am looking at us as a country to try and identify a niche market in the big global structure and concentrate on where we are going to have more impact. Our country has become a dumping place. There is no question about it. (Intervention)

HON NEHOVA: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, can I ask my Colleague a question, please? Honourable Tjihuiko, can Vision 2030 be achieved without industrialization?

HON TJIHUIKO: Let me conclude, Honourable Deputy Chairperson by saying that smaller countries in population tend to get into strategic Sectors to develop their economies. Namibia is a big country in size and a small country in population, I am challenging the Minister of Trade to look at possibilities for us to start looking at other options rather than speaking to manufacturing which we would not be able to compete with the big brothers around us. With that I support the Vote. Thank you.

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

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Let me also add my voice in congratulating the Honourable Minister for the elaborative Speech and I support the Vote. I only have two questions to pose. I am very happy that Honourable Mutorua left some homework for the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry to elaborate more on the informal traders who need our protection. Honourable Minister, on Page 10, you talk about improving and expanding intellectual property and business registration infrastructure, with the same breath, there is a division in your Ministry tasked with the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON IIVULA-ITHANA

registration of companies, I wish to see this division given prominence in the future Budget Motivation because this is the area where we have the registration of Section 21 companies. If we are not careful this Section 21 companies or the registration thereof, if we do not double check, could be the entry point for many problems that we are going to face in the future. If I want to set up a Section 21 company, for example, a church, I can just go there and register it but then at the Ministry of

Home Affairs you would be told the company has already been registered. Where do you do background checks on these people coming with these kinds of registrations without us double-checking them? People were making remarks here that this country was fought for and we are duty bound to protect our people from some unscrupulous individuals. I do not even want to mention some things that were on television these past few days, people claiming all kinds of things. How do they get in and where do we register these people? Where do we double-check them? I can leave here tomorrow and set up my own organization saying, I am a church, I am a pastor and start going around exploiting people because there are no requirements.

There was a time the SWAPO Youth League was called for a Department of Religious Affairs in this country and we did understand what they were talking about then, but I think the time has come for us to start looking into these things seriously and put a lid on it. I also invite you to read the Financial Times of today on this very specific issue of mushrooming churches and other things because they are causing problems in other countries and we are no exception. Thank you.

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

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I am sorry I missed

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON IIVULA-ITHANA

out on the Motivation Speech of the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry. However, let me congratulate him and his Ministry for what I know this Ministry stands for. Firstly, I want to congratulate them on the advert on Namibia I saw on CNN. I really smiled to myself when I saw that catchy advert of Namibia. It shows these attractive places in Namibia and then it says, '*the gem worth investing in.*' Having said that Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I do not want to be seen to be saying what Honourable Tjhuiko was arguing, however, I seem to be thinking more or less like him because we are living in a very competitive world. Unfortunately we are starting to develop when other countries have already established themselves. They have established industries and are producing quality products that we may not be able to compete with. Therefore, I would like to know; as the Ministry of Trade and Industry have we carved out our competitive advantage and what is it? We cannot just run all over the place but should rather focus on what we can do best and be able to compete against others.

Secondly, we are faced with a severe drought, most Colleagues here including Honourable Moongo who has left the House, talked about many animals crowding in Etosha for grazing. That is not the entire picture; the picture is that of desperate farmers looking for opportunities to get rid of those animals they have already identified to be unable to survive this severe drought. Just to give a little background; when you go to auctions, particularly in communal areas, you would find farmers exchanging animals, those with older animals would be buying younger animals at the same time. There are no more buyers nowadays, and there are no more farmers buying animals for rearing. The market is becoming smaller and there are fewer buyers to the extent that while this Government is advocating for farmers to sell their animals for slaughtering while there is still time. The fact that there are no buyers these animals will eventually die.

My question to the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry is; as the Ministry of Trade, have you thought of any measures to help people with smaller slaughtering facilities to be able to help those who want to get rid of their animals? Are you thinking in terms of creating those facilities for these smaller farmers to be able to do that? If not, I think it is about time

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON KAPIA

we start thinking about it because the situation is serious. Thank you, very much.

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

HON KAPIA: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support and congratulate the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry. In his Motivation Statement he talked about the economy depending or still following the colonial past. I really want to support you on that, all the years I have spoken about a mobile economy. We should be very careful because we have a mobile economy. They come and go, one of the Honourable Members said they announce their arrival but never their departure. That is one of the problems.

Honourable Minister, I want to congratulate you on the growth at home, which is a concept we should embark upon seriously, so that we can see what we can do. However, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, must help the entire Government system to put a stop for Ministries to buy as they want. Officials from various Ministries would buy locally available products outside the country. We must encourage the manufacturing of small items like stationery in the country and Government must be the buyer. Honourable Minister, I implore you to investigate that possibility.

Honourable Minister, I would also like to request you to speed up the process of a One-Stop Centre.

HON MEMBER: Page?

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

HON KAPIA: It is Page 7, you know that. The One-Stop Centre is very important because our people would be able to obtain all the relevant documents from one place – the issuance of Good Standing Certificates with the Ministry of Finance, company registration documents from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Affirmative Action Compliance Certificates from the Employment Equity Commission and the issuance of Good Standing Certificates from Social Security Commission, all these under one roof. Let us help our people by putting up a center in Katutura in order to cut the cost spent on taxis going from Social Security

Commission, to the Employment Equity Commission and wherever. We are really killing our people, not only in Katutura but throughout the country.

Finally, I am in support of Honourable Dingara. We once visited the Kalahari Border Post as a Committee, we have the information on how much we were generating through this import of second-hand vehicles from South Africa. We are now losing revenue since we suspended this, while these cars are running around here. I really support Honourable Dingara, let us open up and let us help our people to import those vehicles directly from wherever they are importing them while we are generating some income in return. Thank you, very much. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. We have exhausted our list, I know call upon the Honourable Minister to reply.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, thank you very much. First of all I would like to thank all the Honourable Members for the very important questions. Like my senior Honourable Mutorua said all the questions at the end of the day carry a message of aspirations and our wish

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

to help our people realize a better life, therefore, I will treat them very important and would like to deal with them one by one.

Firstly, I would like to answer the question Honourable Mutorua has asked me about the issues related to standard setting and labeling of produce, especially in the SME Sector. We have realized that that is an area that needs to be looked at. We have, therefore, drafted the *Metrology Act*, a piece of legislation that is responsible for labeling and setting standards of how you measure quality and quantity. The overall objective of that Act is to make sure that a consumer buys what is seen and indicated on the label in terms of quantity and quality. When you buy one kilogram of beef mince, it must be one kilogram and it must be beef. The *Metrology Act* aims at exactly that, to make sure that that is assured. It will also have provisions that enable us to implement it and to follow up if there is non-compliance with the standards. I think the matter of SMEs needs special assistance and to achieve that is also recognized. In our industrial parks, site and premises and incubation Programmes, SMEs are coached and they receive assistance as to how to comply with these standards and how to make their products competitive both on a pricing and quality level. We have taken that on board and are trying to achieve that through giving on-site assistance to the SMEs in these industrial parks that we are developing in the Regions for SMEs.

Honourable Dingara raised the issue on second-hand vehicles. A little background; Namibia has been open, not quite open, but we allowed in an factual way the import of second-hand vehicles for private use, commercial use, industrial use, all variety of vehicles. However, that open system became prone to misuse. There were serious problems with that scheme because there were serious under valuations happening. Since we are part of the Customs Union and responsible for our contribution to the pool, we were opening ourselves to significant liabilities. We reduced the flexibility by saying, for personal vehicles only, and the age limit is 5 years and the rest did not change. Commercial vehicles remained as they were before. I agree that was done and it resulted in a situation where very cheap vehicles were no longer available for our people. The second-hand vehicles were coming in at very good prices and were very affordable.

We have reviewed the situation; we conducted a study to see what was the

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

misuse of that scheme, how can it be curbed and what is the cost-benefit analysis of opening up or keeping it closed. That study is currently under consideration and we will approach Cabinet with recommendations to change the current system. We will come at an appropriate time and inform this House what the changes would be. I can assure that we are looking at and I think the current situation needs review.

Honourable Bezuidenhout, thank you very much for your kind words. You touched on our efforts to review our institutional setup within the Ministry and also the institutional setup of State-Owned Enterprises that are under our ambit. I would like to make it clear, we are not creating more SOEs it is the opposite. We are reducing them; we are collapsing them in one where we see a significant overlap between them and combine their mandate. We are actually trying to reduce bureaucracy and overheads and improve the ease of making business by streamlining the SOEs that are working under our ambit. That would also result in the need to review the Ministry itself. Someone touched on the registry; registration of companies, registration of patents and trademark. It is the same thing, we want to create one authority that does all the registrations of businesses, companies, Close Corporations, patents and trademarks. We also want to digitalize that so that when you register, you have real-time information on hand to compare whether there are double registrations or there are these funny businesses Honourable Nambahu was referring to. It is again an effort to make sure that the business community out there receives an accurate and speedily delivered service. The problem in registration currently is that it is a manual process and one has to check manual files to verify that the information on the application is in fact what is there. If we have digitalized that, that information would be available in real time and the registration itself would be effected much quicker and accurately. Thank you very much for supporting that.

An institutional review, of course goes hand in hand with a review of the legislation that establishes those institutions and that is happening. We will come to this House with the BIPA Bill, the Bill that creates an institution and empowers it. We are also reviewing to create an institution that is focusing on the implementation ability to drive industrialization, so we will combine the proposal of the NDC with the ODC so that we have our

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

offshore activities and industrialization in the same house with our domestic ones, because we think that domestic investors and players in the economy must at least enjoy the same attractive conditions like a foreign investor. It would be wrong, in our opinions, to prefer foreign over domestic. Not that we are doing that, but there is a perception that we are doing it because we have a *Foreign Investment Act* and not an *Investment Act*. We will amend that to become an *Investment Act* which treats all investors in the same way.

The Competition Commission is that institution that safeguards businesses, but also the consumer against misuse of a dominant position. Our Competition Commission is a new institution that has started to operate well. We had a first challenge with the Walmart/Massmart episode where that kind of dominant position had the risk of being detrimental the economy and local sourcing. We imposed conditions on them which were challenged in Court, I am happy to recall that in the end we did succeed on the appeal of the judicial verdict which said that we cannot give conditions and now there is a precedence t that we can impose these conditions in order to safeguard our economy and the national interests to avoid the misuse of a dominant position.

On Consumer Protection: We have started drafting a piece of legislation that talks to consumer protection. There is, however, one area where we have to make a choice and that is whether we want to approach consumer protection as a rights-based issue where as a consumer, you have a right to be protected, or whether we want to approach it in a way where we assure reasonability in price, quantity and quality and that assurance is given through a softer piece of legislation that stipulates in a type of a guideline what it must be, and then you can inform and use shame and blame tactics if that is not complied with. The hard choice is between a rights-based approach and a peer review kind of self-regulatory system. We still have both choices to grapple with and we will see at the end of the day which one of the will suit our situation best. However, there is a weakness in the system at the moment and the consumers are not well protected and we see that not only in supermarkets, we also see that in other service provisions as well. In financial services there is a point in case where costs are sometimes high and unreasonably so. Honourable Member, your point is

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

taken, we have to do that.

You also talked about diversification and I will lump that together with *Honourable Tjihuiko* and *Honourable Iivula-Ithana*'s response. I think what the Honourable Members have raised is the very core question that we have to grapple with. How do we best grow our economy? Is it through manufacturing or is it through focusing on the Service Sector? Is it through selling raw materials at best prices and make use of the cash distributed? Those are the core questions and if we sit back and look at what the experiences over the world are, I want to point you to two examples; the United Kingdom has under the late Margaret Thatcher decided to de-industrialize and become a service-orientated economy and concentrate specifically on the financial services. They have abandoned and sold off their industrial capacity.

Germany on the hand had said we remain with a policy where we make things, but we also improve our services in order to make these things in a very efficient way. If I see these two economies and compare them to each other, I think the German model has the better chance of survival at the moment. If you portray that back onto Namibia where we live, not in a very friendly world, Honourable Tjihuiko you are right and so is Honourable Iivula-Ithana, we have entered the game too late and we were forced in a situation where we had to sacrifice policy space that could have enabled us to protect the development of our manufacturing capacity in lieu of gaining market access and follow the global free trade agenda.

We entered the situation when it was already skew and we were never allowed an opportunity to develop because we were a colony and we were used by our colonial masters as a capital market. We were supplied with finished goods while we supplied the colonial masters with raw materials that were processed and resold to us. That is *de facto* what is still happening today. That is the question that the Minister of Agriculture had, *why do I buy watermelon jam while there are watermelons grown at Etunda?* To answer the question as to what is the best solution; I think it is neither the one nor the other, we have to be smart in our selection and do both. We have to accelerate our manufacturing capacity so we have to build up our supply side in making things and not only sourcing. The best

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 19
HON SCHLETTWEIN

chance we have is if we build up our supply side using our raw materials that we have to our avail. That is the only competitive advantage that we have. If you have an abundance of high quality beef, use that beef to add value to that raw material, sell it for the best price in the fresh market but in a meal-ready form. For all the industrial meat that is not used in the steak market, process that into commodities like salami, sausages, cooked products etcetera.

However, you can use your raw material and become a price maker instead of a price taker in that approach. You can do the same in the Mineral Sector, if you think that we have precious stones, diamonds, semi-precious stones, gold and silver to our avail, but we do not have an industry here that makes jewelry. Why do we not build value chains around those raw materials and engage SMEs, large companies and smaller companies in that value chain, create the linkages that an individual can make rings, crafts etcetera, sell it to a large retailer by linkages and we have a whole value chain and the country as a whole benefits. That is what we are trying to do and that is why, in NDP4 we have determined that the priority Sectors that we want to build our industry on are Agro Processing, Mineral Beneficiation, Tourism, Transport and Logistics, the two Service Sectors that can also be included. We want to create a good mix where we have the manufacturing supply side but add services where we can be competitive. Here tourism is the priority area and Transport and Logistics Sector was added. The answer, therefore, is a little bit of both that is the services side and the manufacturing side. That is the best chance of survival in an uphill battle. The other element latched onto that is when we enter into third party agreements where we open up our markets; we must only do that if our policy space to develop the supply side is not eroded to such an extent that we are handcuffed and thrown back in our development efforts. I think then we will have a good chance of making it. That is the long answer to your question.

Honourable Nambahu asked a question on legislation, I have dealt with that. *Honourable Iivula-Ithana* you asked an important question of the drought related matter and the market that is in the process of collapsing. I can just report that we had two series of meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture where we have received Reports both from the marketing side

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON DR AMWEELO

and the supply side of cattle and sheep on what the current situation is. We are trying to agree on a two-pronged situation as soon as possible:

Firstly, how can we immediately solve the situation that is drought driven? How quickly can we take off animals at reasonable prices while assuring that our processing facilities are used maximally instead of exporting raw materials and allowing other processors beyond our borders to do that? We must use our processing facilities, our exporting facilities to the optimum while we are trying to assure reasonable prices. I think it is not possible to pay top prices all the time we have a drought situation. That is the first thing we want to do. We have already reached an agreement between the processors and the producers on how the mechanics of that scheme should work. We are, therefore, very close to announcing what that will entail.

Secondly, is to have a longer-term approach to which we maximize the value addition capacity question of the value chain based on the Meat Sector. Again it is the abattoirs, the processors and the producers that must come together and we must decide on a scheme, on a set of incentives for business centres that will drive that whole Sector to optimize value addition. Thank you, very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much indeed. Any Objection? Agreed to. I now put Vote 14 – “**LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE**” for Discussion. Honourable Amweelo, please.

HON DR AMWEELO: Thank you, very much. Mine is very straight to the point. Honourable Minister, my concern is on Page 8; the **Labour Service Protection** – some times ago an elevator accident occurred at the Katutura State Hospital and a year ago a similar accident happened again at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This is a problem and we know that about 95% is caused by human error, while 5% is mechanical due to lack of routine inspection and maintenance. Do you have any system in place to

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON IILONGA

train inspectors in order to detect problems with these elevators on time, to avoid reoccurrence in the future?

Secondly, there was a problem with charcoal producers who are using labour-based methods. The employer refused to provide them with protective clothing because they are not employed by him. However, according to the Law, Regulation 2(6)(b), the employer is supposed to provide protective clothing free of charge. Since these employees are suffering and Honourable *Ekanda* came up with a recommendation when he was at this Ministry some years ago; how far have you gone with this issue in order to protect the employees from charcoal hazards?

The last questions is on Page 10 – **Capital Projects: Construction of a Regional Office at Eenhana** – N\$235,000.00 and **Construction of Regional Office at Ondangwa** – N\$248,000.00; since building and construction costs have gone up, do you think these amounts are enough for building materials and labour and how big are these offices? This is just a concern, you do not need to answer. I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Iilonga, please. Let us move a little bit faster.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, very much. I just want to comment on **Labour Services**. Last year after the Court challenge on Section 128 of the *Labour Act* (Act 11 of 2007) by labour hire companies, judgment was serve, advice was provide and Amendments were made, however, to my surprise after almost eight months after APS lodged an appeal the judgment is still reserved and sometimes we are told not to interfere with the Judiciary but this Section is dealing with the exploitation of our people. APS still continues exploiting our people like before while waiting for the appeal judgment. Our Judges must be realistic.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON WITBOOI

Like Honourable Amweelo said, we have constant inspections on charcoal producers. We must really pull up our socks. We cannot let this thing continue. There was a Cabinet directive on this issue and a decision was taken for an agreement to be reached between the Ministry of Labour and the Farmers Association. What is the progress so far Comrade Minister?

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

HON WITBOOI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would firstly like to congratulate the Ministry for increasing the old age grants. Honourable Minister, I have two concerns and the first concern is about the renewed process of the grants. I have a suggestion, before my suggestion I would like to explain something:

My intervention is covering two Ministries because we cannot separate the two from each other. Honourable Minister, people receiving the disability grant must renew it after every two years and a form must only be completed by a doctor. Doctors pay visits to places like Koës and Aroab which are about 180 kilometers away from Keetmanshoop, once a month and they only have time for the sick people, they are, therefore, not really assisting these people to complete their forms. These people have to hitchhike to the clinic in Keetmanshoop and wait in the queue while the doctors are attending to sick people. At 17:00 the clinic closes for the day and then they either have to stay or travel back to return the next day, week or even month. Due to all these hiccups they end up not receiving grants and must start afresh with the application process.

Honourable Minister, my suggestion, therefore is; something must be done in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to assist these people. I mentioned the Ministry of Health because after receiving the renewal form from the Ministry of Labour you must go to the Ministry of Health to see a doctor after which you must return the form to the Ministry of Labour. I

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON DINGARA

think the two Ministries must talk to each other.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I think it is very clear. I am sure the Minister will be able to respond.

HON WITBOOI: My second concern is; if a person was born with a disability and there is more than enough evidence, why should that person renew the application after every two years? He/she was born and will die with that disability – there is enough evidence to prove that. Therefore, the two Ministries must come up with a solution. I support the Vote.

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

HON DINGARA: Thank you, very much. I want to congratulate the Minister for a very well-presented Motivation Speech. On Page 6; gold was discovered at a mine between Karibib and Usakos; as I understand in rich Nations, people paint their house with gold. I was also made to understand that next to diamonds, gold is of true value; its value never expires. However, when it comes to remuneration of people working at this gold mine, the whites are better paid than the blacks. I thought salaries based on the colour of a person are a thing of the past. I know that the Ministry was there on several occasions but the problem still persists. How long will this continue? Do they have to go on strike in order to be heard? Thank you.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON A TJONGARERO / HON SIOKA

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. The story of the gold is very clear and I am sure the Minister will deal with that. Honourable Tjongarero, please.

HON A TJONGARERO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members. I also want to congratulate the Honourable Minister and the Ministry for a job well done. My question is on Page 7 – **Labour Market Information and Employment Services Programme:** This Programme looks very good and everything is covered, all I want to know is whether the Programme is already in place or is still to be implemented. I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Honourable Minister you have the Floor to respond to all those questions.

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for the opportunity to answer some major questions. They are major questions to me, because like I said during my Motivation Speech that I am a four-month old *baby* in the Ministry, but I will try my best to answer the questions posed. If you notice that I do not answer well, you should know that I am still investigating. However, I got some answers from my colleagues who are outside and I also have my Deputy who can intervene if I miss something.

Honourable Amweelo, mentioned the lifts at the Katutura State Hospital and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we heard about the accidents. This problem is two-phased; (i) Maintenance; and (ii) Inspectors.

18 April 2013

COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 14
HON SIOKA

We have now intensified our training of labour inspectors, since I came in. The second concern was charcoal personnel and yes, protective clothing is provided to those employees by the ILO – they are providing us with training and money to buy these materials.

On the Construction of Regional Offices: Honourable Amweelo, you have been a Minister before and you know that money will always be a problem. Sometimes the resources are there and sometimes there is nothing, we must, therefore, manage what we have. We will manage with the amounts allocated. In my speech I mentioned that we have already inaugurated the Office in Eenhana and we will be inaugurating another Office in Walvis Bay, next week Monday. We are trying with the little resources we have.

Honourable Ilonga asked about the APS case; the judgment is still pending so I will not dwell on an issue that is *sub judice*.

Honourable Witbooi, you mentioned the disability grant and the distances travelled by the beneficiaries to renew their applications; you may realize that the mandates of the Ministries differ and the Ministry of Labour depends on the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's doctors. We cannot do otherwise and for your information we are working with the Ministry of Health. The Ministry has approached the ILO to assist with the Social Expenditure Review Process and this Programme will also address structure issues as you have rightly pointed out. The Ministry is currently consulting with the Ministry of Health on the issue raised on a continuous basis. Even though, Colleague I could not answer you correctly, this is how a newcomer should behave.

Honourable Dingara, these differences in payment should be harmonized in future. If the employees are affected they must report to the Ministry so that we can solve the problem.

I did not get the question from *Honourable Tjongarero* very well.

With this I would like to thank the Honourable Members for your support. Thank you and good night.

18 April 2013

ADJOURNMENT

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, very much. Any Objection? Agreed to.

I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again

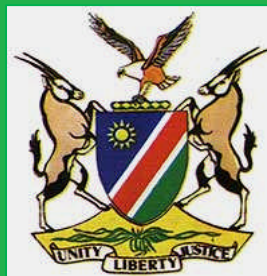
ASSEMBLY RESUMED

Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Job well done. The House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 09:00.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 20:42 UNTIL 2013.04.19 AT 09:00

APPENDICES



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY



TECHNICAL PAPER IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTIVATION
OF MAWF BUDGET 2013/2014

THEME: "PROSPERITY AND GROWTH THROUGH HARD
WORK"

ABSTRACT

The Vision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry is to be recognized as a lead contributor to food security, agro-product competitiveness, increased and equitable access to our natural resources for improved livelihoods, well being and wealth for all. On the other hand, the Ministry is mandated to promote, develop, manage and utilize agricultural, water and forest resources sustainably. The Government of the Republic of Namibia during the formulation of our Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4) has identified the agriculture sector as one of the economic priorities which will enjoy precedence in terms of resource allocation to ensure that the impact and results of our efforts are optimal and consequently contribute to the attainment of Vision 2030.

The Fourth National Development Plan sets three desired outcomes for the Agriculture, Water, Forestry and Sanitation sectors, which are to be achieved by 2017. These are: Desired Outcome 9 - Agriculture experiencing average real growth of 4% per annum; Desired Outcome 4 - The proportion of severely poor individuals is expected to drop from 15.8% to below 10%; Desired Outcome 5.3 - Access to water for human consumption is expected to increase from 87% to 100% of the population and ensure that there is sufficient water reserves for industrialization.

The Ministry continues to expand Namibia's export markets for livestock products in order to boost the meat industry value addition and generate foreign exchange. Market access for Namibian red meat has been achieved for the markets of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. Auditors from the Food Safety Inspection Services (FSIS) of the United State government visited Namibia in January 2013 following the completion of technical requirements for the exportation of Namibian red meat to the United States. FSIS is still in the process of finalizing its audit report which in turn would determine access of Namibia's beef to that market. Meanwhile, efforts to gain access to the Chinese market are in progress.

The Ministry, through the Directorate of Veterinary Services continues to intensify its Disease Surveillance Program. Mass vaccinations of livestock against Foot and Mouth Disease and Lung sickness were carried out during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. There were no occurrences of animal diseases of significance affecting international trade during the year under review. However, the country continued to experience a number of

notifiable diseases such as Anthrax, Brucellosis, African Swine Fever, Newcastle disease, Sheep Scab, Rabies, African Horse Sickness and Bovine Malignant Catarrh. Preventive mass vaccinations of livestock against major diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lung sickness were carried out during the 2012/2013 Financial Year. A total of 1,210,646 cattle in the Northern Communal Areas were vaccinated against lung sickness. This represents ninety three percent (93%) of the targeted cattle population which is earmarked for vaccination. In addition to that, over 90% of the cattle population in the Caprivi Region and in the Ndiyona and Mukwe constituencies of the Kavango Region were vaccinated against Food and Mouth Disease. To be specific, in Caprivi Region and the two constituencies, cattle were vaccinated three (3) and two (2) times per year respectively.

The construction of Veterinary Control Gates at Mururani and Kamdescha has been completed whereas the construction of veterinary clinic offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation at Engombe and Onamishu has also been completed. Construction of the new post mortem facility at the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) is planned for the 2013/2014 financial year while construction of five new State Veterinary Service Centers at Eenhana, Outapi, Omuthiya, Okakarara and Epukiro is expected to be completed in July 2013.

The Ministry continues to support the processing of indigenous plant resources. Following the official launching of Omahangu cookies in September 2012, the Ministry has again made an effort to add commercial value to local indigenous plant resources by embarking on producing Jam and juice from Marula fruits, Maguni, Eembe and Eenyandi.

The Ministry continues with the multiplication of the Gellapper sheep breed. The number of breeding ewes now stands at 800 against the targeted number of 1,000 ewes before this new breed is distributed to the farming community. Three community-based artificial insemination centers for cattle were established at Erindi, Okatjana and Otjikova in Otjinene constituency of the Omaheke Region.

The Ministry continues with its commitment to improve indigenous livestock and the supply of improved livestock breeding material to the farming communities through auctions and support Schemes. In this regard, a total of 7 bulls and 25 cows of various breeds were auctioned at Alex

Muranda Livestock Development Centre in the Kavango Region. Through the Bull Scheme, 176 bulls and 110 rams were sold to selected communal farmers at a subsidized prices thereby availing improved livestock breeding material to the farmers.

The Ministry continues to provide extension services to farmers in the form of information dissemination, training, and advice on good agricultural practices throughout the country using a participatory approach.

In order to fill up the National Strategic Food Reserve Facilities, six thousand five hundred and ninety two metric tons (6,592MT) of maize grains and five hundred and sixty five metric tons (565MT) of millet grains were procured from the Green Scheme Projects and National Youth Service respectively. A total of six hundred metric tons (600MT) of millet grains and four thousand seven hundred metric tons (4,700MT) of maize grains from the National Strategic Food Reserves was sold to the Emergency Management Unit (EMU) in the Office of the Prime Minister for the San/Ovatue feeding Programme during the 2012/13 Financial Year. Meanwhile, seventy metric tons (70MT) of millet grains and over a thousand metric tons (1,000MT) of maize grains from the same reserves were sold to small scale millers.

The Ministry remains committed to the implementation of the Green Scheme Programme through infrastructure development as well as general agriculture marketing infrastructure. The Fresh Produce Business Hubs at Ongwediva and Rundu were constructed and inaugurated by His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba. Construction of a logistics center at Sikondo Irrigation Project was completed. The construction of 2 rice silos with the capacity of 700 tons at Katima Mulilo were completed and commissioned.

The Ministry continues to support the development of cooperatives as viable business entities. Fourteen (14) new cooperatives were provisionally registered while one cooperative was fully registered. This brings the total number of fully registered and provisionally registered cooperatives to 7 and 85 respectively.

In an effort to develop and capacitate our staff both at professional and technical levels in identified critical areas in which the agriculture, water and forestry sectors lack qualified personnel. To this effect, 101 staff

members and non-staff members were supported to pursue their studies in various critical areas in the field of agriculture, water and forestry. Currently, there are 94 bursary holders pursuing their studies in different areas of interest. A total of 212 staff members attended short courses in various fields under the support of the Ministry.

With regard to water supply, eight Basin Management Committees (BMCs), which were established to manage water resources at basin level continues to be operational. The Ministry continues to uphold Namibia's commitment to co-operate on international rivers through active participation on Basin Commissions namely; Orange Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM, Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM).

Regarding early flood warning, water levels and flows, the network of automatic measuring, recording and transmission stations was expanded with stations at Okatope (Cuvelai), Gub and Kuiseb passes. Currently, water levels and flows are continuously monitored at 131 measuring stations in rivers, lakes and dams throughout and on the borders of Namibia. At the same time, remote sensing satellite technology is further developed to monitor the weather and flooding conditions in neighboring countries where monitoring and direct communication is not achievable. This makes it possible for the timely and reliable information on flood precipitating developments.

The Ministry, in collaboration with Namibia Water Corporation (NAMWATER) successfully hosted the Namibia Water Investment Conference from the 12 to 14 September 2012. This Conference attracted more than 300 delegates including ministers of Water from the SADC Region. The conference was conducted under the theme: "Water for Development" and slogan: "No Water, No Life". The aim was to bring together all stakeholders in the water industry to collectively address issues concerning the development of the Water and Sanitation sectors. The Ministry is implementing sanitation policy in rural areas. To date a total of 482 households were provided with sanitation facilities in three constituencies of Ohangwena region namely; Endola, Epembe and Ohangwena. The policy aims to expand dry sanitation facilities and promote the use of such facilities in the rural communities and schools.

The Ministry will continue with the implementation of de-bushing to reduce the extent of bush encroachment on state-owned land, increase the land's carrying capacity of the farming land and improve livestock production in the country. To date, a total of 898 hectares have been cleared in government owned farms as well as the resettlement farm for the San community. As a result, 405 jobs have been created, benefiting 352 men and 53 women. Preparations are underway to extend the de-bushing activities to privately owned lands on subsidised costs. The Ministry will continue to promote the utilization of the bush and create the much needed jobs for Namibians.

The Ministry signed agreements with Nineteen (19) communities in establishing community forests covering a total area of approximately 2.5 million hectares. A total of 181,745 seedlings were produced in government nurseries. These seedlings were sold to communities to encourage tree planting.

The Ministry with assistance of the local communities, successfully cleared 5,623 km of firebreaks in fire prone areas of Oshikoto, Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshana, Caprivi, Kavango, Omaheke, Otjozondjupa and Kunene Regions. A total of 5,623 km of firebreaks were cleared, creating 2,356 temporary jobs to 414 female and 1,942 men. The acquisition of precision forestry techniques (GIS/Remote Sensing), have enabled the electronic dispatch of daily fire bulletins. This tool has further enabled responsible personnel to detect and monitor the movement of fires and to act appropriately and effectively.

TECHNICAL PAPER IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTIVATION OF MAWF BUDGET 2013/2014:

The purpose of the Technical Paper is to provide detailed information in addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry's Budget Motivation Speech.

The MAWF's (Vote 20) Total Budget is **N\$2,359,499.00 of which N\$1,027,884,000.00 or 49.5 per cent** is earmarked for recurrent expenditures (Operational Budget) and N\$1,331,615,000.00 or 50.5 per cent represents the Development Budget.

Overall, **N\$1,127,192,000.00 or 48 per cent** is devoted to the development

of the Water Sector and to supply water to rural communities and resettlement towns; **N\$740,879,000.00** or **31.4 per cent** is for the development of the Agriculture Sector, and **N\$122,286,000.00** or **5 per cent** is for the development of the Forestry Sector while **N\$369,142,000.00** or **15.6 per cent** has been allocated to the supervision and support services.

1. MAIN DIVISION 01 : OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$5,743,000.00

A total of **N\$5,743,000.00** is required for the Main Division 01, the Office of the Minister, for running activities of the office.

2. MAIN DIVISION 02 : ADMINISTRATION

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$216,211,000.00

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET : N\$27,382,000.00

2.1 OBJECTIVE

- To provide corporate support services to the Ministry.

2.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Ensure effective Ministerial financial management.
- Ensure efficient internal audit services.
- Ensure efficient provision of Auxiliary services.
- Administer Human Resources efficiently and effectively.
- Ensure efficient Ministerial Information Communication Technology Services.

2.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

2.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$107,895,000.00)

2.3.1.1 FINANCE

- Efficient electronic transfer payment system for DSA, Accounts Payable and Payroll for amount ranging from N\$1 to N\$5 million, have been operationalised.
- Managed Budget execution without overspending.
- Salaries, allowances and deductions were processed on time.

2.3.1.2 INTERNAL AUDIT

- Financial and administration audits were conducted at Kunene North & South, Kavango and Head office.
- Financial inspections carried out in all 10 Regions, 70% (100- offices) completion of the audit program. Caprivi, Erongo and Hardap Regions are in progress.
- Database for Ministerial investigations was developed and operationalised.
- Livestock stocktaking training was provided to 41 board members and senior procurement staff of MAWF.
- Livestock counts conducted together with procurement staff at seven (7) research and breeding stations.
- All claims amounting to N\$129,341.00 against the State resulting from vehicle accidents were paid out. This represents a 75% reduction in payment of claims against state compare to last year payment of N\$544,387.00.

2.3.1.3 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- All Human Resource Staff members were trained in English Writing course.
- A total of ten (10) disciplinary hearings out of the 15 cases reported,

were conducted. This represents 67% execution rate. Meanwhile, the 5 remaining cases are still being handled.

- The Ministry filled 273 vacancies which include 170 Children of the Liberation Struggle.
- A total of 35 retired staff members were administered.

2.3.1.4 AUXILIARY SERVICES

- Water and electricity cuts were minimized, thus ensuring consistent availability of ministerial utility services,
- All ministerial outlets were provided with Security services.
- Twenty-four (24) procurement tenders were invited, submitted, evaluated, and approved by the Tender Board. Of these, seven (7) procurement tenders were exempted from normal Tender Board procedures.
- Stock-taking activity which was previously resorting under internal audit was successfully transferred to the Procurement subdivision. Stock taking in the twelve regions was successfully completed.
- Thirty-three (33) new vehicles were purchased to the value of N\$10,000,000.00 via the approved vehicle acquisition tender.
- Nine (9) vehicle auctions were conducted in seven (7) Regions namely; Hardap, Khomas, Caprivi, Kavango, Otjozondjupa, Oshana and Kunene. In total, three hundred and thirty-four (334) ministerial vehicles were auctioned and Revenue of N\$10,546,400.00 was collected in this regard.
- Publications on ministerial activities were produced with coverage in the print and electronic media.

2.3.1.5 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

- Computer system was upgraded from SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint

2010 and eighty per cent (80%) of the data was migrated. Training of users was also conducted.

- Ministerial IT equipments (Hardware and Software) were purchased as requested by the Directorates.
- Hundred percent (100%) and Eight percent (80%) of ICT equipment at head office and Regional office were maintained respectively.

2.3.1.6 EMPLOYEE WELLNESS & HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

- The Fresh n' Fit Programme was launched in November 2012.
- A referral system for MAWF staff members on chronically diseases such as Diabetes, Cancer and High blood pressure in partnership with Met-Health was established.
- The Ministry conducted a wellness screening for staffs in 5 Regions namely; Khomas, Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena and Kavango. About 800 staff members participated in the event.
- The Agriculture, Water and Forestry (AWF) Sector Steering Committee on HIV and AIDS was established.
- The Agriculture, Water and Forestry Sector Response Strategy was developed.

2.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

2.3.2.1 FINANCE

- Conduct a Cost Centre Manager training on GRN Budget and procedure
- Maintain Ministerial Financial Administration

2.3.2.2 INTERNAL AUDIT

- Create awareness in cooperate governance to senior ministerial staff members.

- Implement audit program and follow-up on audit recommendations, focusing on control risks.
- Ensure ninety (90%) completion of investigation on reported cases.
- Provide coordinated training to sub- receivers of revenue, livestock taking and stock taking.
- Complete ninety five percent (95%) of vehicle accident, loss and damage cases.

2.3.2.3 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Train sixty percent 60% of all Ministerial supervisors on Human Resource Matters.
- Install electronic Record Management System (EDRMS) for the human resource Registry.
- Train fifty percent 50% of Ministerial supervisors as Investigation Officers and fifty percent 50% of Deputy Directors/Directors in Chairing Disciplinary Hearings.
- Fill ninety percent (90%) of the vacant budgeted posts in the Ministry.
- Implement the Restructuring process.
- Ensure signing of Performance Agreements by all staff members.

2.3.2.4 AUXILIARY SERVICES

- Continue to provide office support services.
- Implement the approved ministerial stock taking program.
- Maintain MOF approved Ministerial Asset registers (New templates).
- Maintain Administration of Ministerial procurement.
- Develop the Ministry's corporate relations strategy.

- Produce the Ministerial investment promotional video.
- Produce Ministerial publications.

2.3.2.5 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

- Conduct feasibility study for Voice over IP.
- Conduct staff training on the use of AMIS.
- Redesign and update MAWF Website.
- Develop database for assets register, Hardware, software and infrastructure.

2.3.2.6 EMPLOYEE WELLNESS AND HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

- Roll out the Fresh 'n Fit program for Employee Wellness, HIV/AIDS Program to the remaining eight (8) Regions.
- Review existing policy and projects to mainstream Gender and HIV and AIDS.
- Coordinate the Agriculture, Water and Forestry (AWF) Sector response on HIV & AIDS.

2.4 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

2.4.1 RENOVATION OF MAWF BUILDINGS

2.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$11,825,000.00)

- A total of forty two (42) office buildings were completed in seven regions namely; Khomas Region (12); Omaheke Region (2); Hardap Region (14); and fourteen (14) Offices in Oshana, Omusati, Ohangwena and Oshikoto Regions.
- Twenty seven (27) staff houses were renovated in Khomas, Omaheke, Hardap, Oshana, Omusati, Ohangwena and Oshikoto Region.

2.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The Ministry will renovate and upgrade all ministerial buildings in order to maintain infrastructure on an annual basis.

2.4.2 CONSTRUCTION OF MINISTERIAL REGIONAL HEAD QUARTERS

2.4.2.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$104,500,000.00)

- Feasibility study for the construction of an additional office complex at MAWF Head Office, Government Office Park was completed.
- A feasibility study for warehouses and offices for the Plant & Fleet Management and Procurement was also completed.
- Phase 1 of the regional headquarters at Outapi which comprises the construction of a board room and 2 office complexes, containing 18 offices are ninety percent (90%) completed.
- Phase 1 of the regional headquarter at Eenhana has commenced. One office complex and cooling rooms for the preservation of seeds are (90%) completed. In addition to that, the upgrading of a boardroom in the existing building was finalized. Furthermore, construction of access roads to the Ministry's premises, and the construction of platform foundations at Eenhana were completed.

2.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Invite tenders for the construction of phase 2 of regional headquarters at Eenhana and Outapi.
- Invite tenders for the construction of regional head quarters at Rundu and Katima Mulilo.
- Expand the office block at Head office.
- Invite tenders for the construction of warehouses and offices for the Plant and Fleet Management as well as Procurement.

2.4.3 EXPANSION OF INTRANET AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF E-GOVERNANCE FOR MAWF

2.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$572,000.00)

- Thirteen (13) offices were connected to Internet and Intranet in the following towns: Rehoboth (1), Grootfontein (1), Gobabis (1), Rundu (1), Katima Mulilo (3), Karibib (1), Khorixas (1), Outjo (1), Onankali (2) and Opuwo (1).

2.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- 13 Offices at identified sites will be connected to the Intranet and Internet.
- Increase bandwidth to acceptable network speed.

3. MAIN DIVISION 03 : VETERINARY SERVICES

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$139,197,000.00

CAPITAL BUDGET : N\$68,843,000.00

3.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) is to maintain and promote optimal animal health, production and reproduction and assure safe and orderly marketing of animal and animal products through animal disease control, epidemiology and extension, diagnostic services and veterinary public health services.

The main policy objectives are to:

- Implement both development and regulatory activities in accordance with legislation and directives related to the animal industry;
- Develop structures and physical infrastructures necessary to bring veterinary services to all parts of the country, maintain integrity that the Namibian Veterinary Services enjoys, ensuring livestock/meat exports, as well a regional and international cooperation;

- Ensure that good cooperation with the farming community is maintained so as to benefit the health of the nation's livestock;
- Maintain and improve the diagnostic and supportive role of the Central Veterinary Laboratory.

- **3.2. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES**

- **3.2.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012/2013**

- **3.2.1.1 Disease Surveillance and Control**

Disease surveillance is a major activity of DVS. This is done in order to give evidence of the country's animal health status. Due to the ever increasing threat of animal disease with a potential to disrupt Namibia's access to local, regional and international markets, the Directorate of Veterinary Services has been intensifying its disease surveillance program to ensure that diseases or conditions that may precipitate disease outbreaks are mitigated and that systems are in place for early detection and early effective response to disease threats.

- Surveillance data indicated that a total of one hundred and twenty four thousand and seventy four (124,074) cattle, seven hundred and sixty eight thousand nine hundred and sixty six (768,966) sheep and ten thousand nine hundred and ninety four (10,994) springboks were slaughtered under veterinary supervision; three hundred and ninety one thousand one hundred and eighty one (391,181) cattle, four hundred and nine thousand eight hundred and eighty two (409,882) sheep and four hundred and nine thousand two hundred and seventeen (409,217) goats were inspected during livestock auctions.
- A total of three hundred and nineteen thousand and fifty five (319,055) live small stock and one hundred and thirty two thousand four hundred and forty nine (132,449) cattle were inspected and certified for export mainly to South Africa.

Ongoing Programmes include:

- Mass and strategic vaccinations of animals against disease such as Foot and Mouth Disease, Lung sickness and Rabies.

- Other major activities were livestock identification and traceability, import/export control, extension and regulatory inspections at community level, farms, livestock auctions and abattoirs were carried out.
- A great amount of effort was put in the maintenance of veterinary infrastructures such as veterinary clinics, crush pens, quarantine farms, veterinary cordon fences some of which required extensive repair due to old age. Electrification of parts of the border and Veterinary Cordon Fence improved the zoo-sanitary controls of the country.
- Action to implement the Policy for the Eradication of Transboundary Animal Diseases in the Northern Communal Areas has started with the approval of a project funded by Millennium Challenge Account Namibia to the tune of N\$9.8 million. This amount will be used for the development of strategies, road map, plan of action and preparation of supporting documentation to declare the Northern Communal Areas (NCA) Free of Foot and Mouth Disease and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia. Activities to investigate the strategy as well as the planning process have started. A draft strategy and plan of action are expected in June 2013.
- The Ministry also participated in the Livestock Technical Committee and subcommittee meetings of SADC. In June and December 2012, DVS officials conducted bilateral meetings with South African and Botswana Veterinary officials respectively to cement trade and Transboundary animal diseases cooperation between Namibia and those countries.

3.2.1.2 Export markets

- The technical requirements for the exportation of Namibian red meat to the United States have been completed. Auditors from the Food Safety Inspection Services (FSIS) of the US Government were in the country in January 2013. The audit's official report is awaited from the FSIS before access could be secured.

3.2.1.2 Animal Disease control

- The Directorate of Veterinary Services successfully managed animal

diseases in the country. The only significant disease outbreak was that of Anthrax at Omadhiya Village in Oniipa Constituency of Oshikoto Region in February 2013. This outbreak caused the deaths of two individuals and killed a number of cattle in the area. The outbreak was successfully controlled through mass vaccination, animal movement control as well as public awareness.

- The country remains under threat from trans-boundary animal diseases in particular concerning a disease of goats and sheep called Peste de Petit Ruminantes. Strategies are being formulated to deal with this disease which has so far been detected in northern Angola.
- Mass vaccinations of Namibia's livestock against major diseases such as foot and Mouth Disease and Lung sickness were carried out during 2012.
- Vaccination of pets against rabies was provided throughout the country. The threat of rabies continues to grow and efforts to reduce the impact of this disease are underway.

3.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

3.2.2.1 Improvement of Animal Health Status and marketing in the Northern Communal Areas

- The Directorate of Veterinary Services has started implementing the policy aimed at creating conditions which will allow farmers in the northern communal area to access local, regional and international markets for their animals and animal products.
- With assistance of the MCA-Namibia, the Ministry is in the process of formulating the strategy and plan of action needed to achieve this goal. This involves extensive stakeholder consultations and consensus building at local, national and international level.
- It is expected that a project team that has been assembled to deal with this matter will come up with a clear strategy, road map and implementation plans. Meanwhile, progress on a number of activities is already being implemented on the ground and these include:

- Increasing the frequency of livestock inspections and community visits;
- Conducting structured surveys for major diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease and Lung sickness.
- Efforts to provide evidence that the Etosha National Park is Foot and Mouth Diseases free is underway. If successful, this will result in the recognition of the park as free of the disease enabling easier access to the animals and animal products to access local and export markets.
- Training of farmers on disease recognition and good farming practices;
- The first and second phase of the livestock identification and traceability systems was implemented in the Northern Communal Areas with a total of 1.4 million animals ear-tagged (over 90 % of the targeted population) and registered. The first phase was carried out in 2011 and the second phase in 2012. The third and final phase will be implemented in 2013. The introduction of the system enables the keeping of more accurate records of animal disease surveillance, animal movements and vaccinations to be made. Breeding programs can also be monitored as well as population dynamics which will enable future projections to be made;
- Increasing the number of veterinary offices in the northern communal areas to reduce the distance that farmers have to travel to seek the assistance of veterinarians;
- Developing and implementing protocols to facilitate the local marketing of meat by small abattoirs in the northern communal areas;
- Hold border harmonization meetings with neighboring countries particularly Angola.

3.2.2.2 Construction of new veterinary infrastructure

- Design of new research laboratory at Eenhana. This laboratory will focus on the major transboundary diseases;
- Accreditation of the Central Veterinary Laboratory. Accreditation of some tests in three various sections has already been achieved and more tests for accreditation will be submitted to the accreditation body this year;
- Designing and construction of new veterinary offices and crush pens;
- Designing and construction of plant and animal health inspection facilities at border posts;
- Recruiting additional staff on its establishment (veterinarians, technicians and other support staff) to fulfill the above mentioned Programmes. Additional materials and equipment such as vehicles, offices, furniture and diagnostic kits will also be required;
- Rehabilitate 5 Government owned abattoirs in the NCA to enhance surveillance and food safety standards in the area.

3.3 CAPITAL PROJECTS

3.3.1 DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH BORDER INSPECTION SYSTEM

3.3.1.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$8,000,000.00)

- The infrastructure development for sanitary and phyto-sanitary import/export control to prevent the introduction of exotic plant and animal diseases in Namibia is underway.
- Construction of sanitary and phyto-sanitary import/export control points at Buitepos, Noordoewer, Ariamsvlei and Oshikango are at an advanced stage.

3.3.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- It is envisaged that construction of offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation at Oronditi, Swaartbooisdrift and Katwitwi as well as the construction of a Traceability office in Windhoek will start during this Financial Year.

3.3.2 CONSTRUCTION OF VETERINARY CLINICS, OFFICES AND ACCOMMODATION

3.3.2.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$25,612,000.00)

- A total of 56 veterinary offices and clinics have been constructed across the country.
- The veterinary control gates and staff accommodation at Mururani and Kamdescha are fully completed whereas those at Nama-Pan and Palmfontein are 85% completed.
- Construction of veterinary clinics offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation were completed at Engombe and Onamishu as part of Agricultural center.

3.3.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Construction of veterinary clinics offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation will commence at Okalongo, Ruacana, Okahao, Onayena, Onkumbula, Tses Village, Omauni, Omundaungilo, Epembe, Ncaute, Ndiyona and Kongola.
- In addition to that, construction of veterinary control gates at Rooidag, Okaukuejo and Werda will commence during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

3.3.3 RENOVATIONS OF THE OLD WING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POST-MORTEM FACILITY AT THE CENTRAL VETERINARY LABORATORY

3.3.3.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2012 /2013 (N\$10,000,000.00)

- Plans for the renovations of the old wing and construction of the new post mortem facility at the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) were

drawn up and approved. The construction of the Bio-Security Level-3 Laboratory (BSL-3 L) and the new post mortem facility was completed in November 2012 and has been handed over.

- Provisional plans were prepared for the construction of the Eenhana Research Laboratory. The site for its construction has been identified and fenced off.
- The Ondangwa Regional Laboratory site will be changed because the identified site was in a flood prone area. Draft architectural plans have already been prepared and the new site has been identified. The project is to be put on tender.

3.3.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Renovation of the Central Veterinary Laboratory which commenced in 2012 is expected to be completed during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- The construction of the Ondangwa laboratory is expected to start this year.
- Documentation for construction of the Eenhana Research Laboratory is underway and its expected to be completed in 2013.

3.3.4 CONSTRUCTION OF 5 NEW VETERINARY SERVICE CENTRES AND QUARANTINE FARMS AND LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY

This project is funded by the Millennium Challenge Account together with the Government through MAWF.

3.3.4.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$68,424,510.00)

- The Construction of the new State Veterinary Service Centers at Eenhana, Outapi, Omuthiya, Okakarara and Epukiro have commenced and they are 75% completed.
- During 2012/2013 Financial Year, a total of 826,611cattle were tagged during phase one and 580,067 cattle were tagged during phase two of the project. During the second phase of the project, a total of 476,734

and 492,000 official ear-tags were acquired by Millennium Challenge Account of Namibia and MAWF respectively.

- To date, the total number of ear-tagged cattle in the Northern Communal Areas stands at 1,406,678 which represents over 90% of the total cattle population in the NCA. An upgraded database NamLITS V2.0 is under development and is expected to integrate the animal identification records across the whole country.

3.3.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Construction of the five (5) new State Veterinary Service Centres is expected to be completed during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- Livestock Identification and Traceability will continue in the NCA and the entire populations of cattle are expected to be ear-tagged during this Financial Year.
- In subsequent years, DVS will concentrate on tagging and recording of new born animals as well as recording of animal movement events.
- The electronic movement permits in the NCA will be implemented Unification of NamLITS V2.0 and NamLITS V1.0 will be effected.
- The upgrading of Kopano and Katima Mulilo quarantine farms is expected to be completed in the first quarter of this Financial Year. Millennium Challenge Account of Namibia provided funds to the tune of N\$900,000.00 to upgrade these quarantine farms in the Caprivi Region.

3.3.5 IMPROVEMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND MARKETING SERVICES IN NORTHERN COMMUNAL AREAS

3.3.5.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/2013 (N\$7,000,000.00)

- A memorandum of understanding between Namibia and Angola to collaborate on the eradication of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia and Foot and Mouth Diseases awaited ratification by the Angolan authorities.

- Bilateral meetings were held with Angola, Botswana and South Africa during the period under review.
- Maintenance of marketing and quarantine infrastructure, upgrading crush-pen, fences, water facilities, roads and firebreaks and buildings were also carried out.

3.3.5.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- Intensification of clinical and serological surveillance will be effected for the Northern Communal Areas.
- In order to achieve the intensification regime of surveillance, DVS has submitted proposals to expand its staff compliment from the current 737 to approximately 1,400.
- Prophylactic vaccinations against Foot and Mouth Disease and Lung sickness will continue in 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- A draft strategy and a plan of action for eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease in the NCA are expected to be completed in June 2013. This will be followed by the submission of the plan and hopefully endorsement by the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The essential elements of the plan are likely to involve strengthening of veterinary services by bolstering staff capacity in terms of skills development, development of surveillance and response guidelines, construction of veterinary infrastructure (offices, laboratories, accommodation), procurement of equipment and vehicles, community mobilization and participation in veterinary activities. International collaboration in the management of Transboundary animal diseases will also be strengthened.

3.3.6 BEEF VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTHERN COMMUNAL AREAS

3.3.6.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/2013 (N\$5,000,000)

This project aims to enhance the cattle and beef value chain systems and marketing in the Northern Communal Areas which is expected to increase off-take. The expected output is the provision of fully equipped cattle

and processing infrastructure as well as cold storage facilities, with the aim to enhance food security and food safety in the country. The project consists of the following: livestock trading centers at Eenhana and Outapi; upgrading of abattoirs at Eenhana and Outapi; and the establishment of the Ongwediva Central Meat Processing and Cold Store Facilities. Except for Eenhana and Outapi, livestock trading centers, design and drawings were completed. The site for Eenhana abattoir was handed over to the contractor in March 2012. The Outapi abattoir site was handed over to the contractor in May 2012. Preliminary designs for the upgrading of the Rundu Abattoir were developed and feasibility and viability studies were carried out.

3.3.6.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- Designs for the Eenhana and Outapi trading centers are ready and funds are awaited for work to begin. The first phase of construction of the Eenhana and upgrading of the Outapi abattoir will be completed during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- Design and viability studies for the Ongwediva and Rundu Central Processing and Cold Room Facilities and Rundu abattoir have been finalized and are ready to go out for construction tenders.

4. MAIN DIVISION 04 : AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$72,806,000.00

CAPITAL BUDGET : N\$17,200,000.00

4.1 OBJECTIVES

- To conduct agricultural research through need-driven, basic, adaptive and strategic research in the communal and commercial farming areas of Namibia.
- To develop and conserve plant and livestock genetic material for future use.

4.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Conduct crop and livestock research.

- Provide laboratory analytical services.
- Conserve and preserve plant and animal genetic material.
- Conduct rangeland and pasture research.
- Develop new products for the agricultural sector.
- Provide livestock performance support services.

4.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$76,025,000)

4.3.1.1 Agronomy and Horticulture Research

- Cognizant of the important role seeds play in improving agricultural productivity and ensuring food security, 72 tons of improved seed varieties were produced at Omahenene, Bagani, Mannheim and Okashana Research Stations. This quantity of seeds comprised of 4 tons foundation and 68 tons of certified seeds.
- 36 tons of rice grains were produced at Kalimbeza Research Station.
- In order to assure that seeds produced by the seed growers are of high standard, the Ministry provided technical backstopping through identification and rouging of off-types in the seed fields.
- A total of 20 ha of land have been de-bushed for the production of seeds and other research activities at the following stations: Liselo (11ha) which is a new dry land experimental field, Okashana Research and Training Centre (7ha) and Bagani Research Station (6ha).
- A total of 28 research projects are being conducted at 5 Research stations on crop improvement, soil fertility improvement, crop diversification and variety evaluation.
- The Ministry in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency continues to evaluate newly developed 250 mutant lines of cowpea (150), pearl millet (50) and sorghum (50) at Mannheim, Bagani

and Omahenene Research stations. This evaluation aims at assessing their performance stability and suitability to local conditions.

Analytical Services

- The product development section has embarked on producing jam and juice from marula fruits, Maguni, eembe and eenyandi in order to add commercial value to local indigenous plant resources.
- One thousand soil samples were received from various customers and analyzed for texture and organic matter, cation exchange capacity and total phosphorus content.
- 800 samples of food and animal feed were received and analyzed for crude fibre, moisture, fat and protein contents.

4.3.1.3 Preservation and Conservation of Plant Genetic Material

- Revised Namibian Plant Species list is ready for publication. This list contains numerous updated species names (name changes) since 1999, as well as new species and new records of species found in Namibia.
- Additionally, detailed lists of protected, endemic, rare and endangered species have been included. The ministry has 4,483 recognized plant taxa in Namibia, grouped in 195 plant families and 1,127 plant genera. Of these, 786 are regarded as endemic to Namibia (i.e. occurring ONLY in Namibia), and 341 species are protected species. 1,249 species are regarded as endangered in one way or another.
- A total of eight further weather stations have been installed at Agricultural Stations throughout the country. The Ministry is maintaining and repairing a total of 31 weather stations, demonstration farms, as well as private and communal farmland. The aim is to provide climatic data to researchers, decision makers and the general public on a regular, up-to-date, and easy to access way on the internet.
- The booklet “Toxic Plants of Veterinary Importance in Namibia” has been revised, and the third edition is in press.

4.3.1.4 Rangeland Management and Pasture Research

- The Ministry has finalized, officially and publicly launched the National Range Land Management Policy and Strategy.

4.3.1.5 Large Stock Research

The Ministry continued to undertake research activities that are aimed at producing and conserving quality genetic material and useful information with the overall aim of enhancing livestock productivity.

- The Ministry in collaboration with Regional Agricultural and Environment Initiative Network - Africa has established three community based artificial insemination centres for cattle at Erindi, Okatjana and otjikova in Otjinene constituency. A total of 82 cows were inseminated during the first trial.

4.3.1.5 Small Stock Research

- A project using prickly pears (*Opuntia ficus indica*) as an alternative feedstuff on Damara sheep has been completed and the result on this project including the nutritional value, growth performance and carcass quality will be published during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- The multiplication of the Gellapper breed has progressed very well and the number of breeding ewes stands at 800. The target number is 1,000 ewes before these ewes can be availed to the farming community.
- Eighteen (18) Gellapper breeding rams have already been sold to the farming community through an open auction.
- Due to the strategic nature of the Namibian Indigenous goats and Swakara sheep, the Ministry continued with the conservation and development efforts in order to increase their gene pool. Currently, there are four Namibian indigenous goat ecotypes at John Alphons Pandeni Research Station totaling to 600 indigenous goats. Similarly, there are 7 Swakara types (dominant white, black, brown, grey, recessive white, pipe curl and dobermann) at Gellap-ost Research Station.

- The research project on reproductive and productive parameters on the Namibian indigenous goats at John Alphons Pandeni Research Station has been conducted and the data does not show any significant differences between these ecotypes.
- The Ministry has assisted small stock farmers with Swakara breeding stock through the Swakara Support Scheme. The Swakara Support Scheme was initiated and developed by the Ministry in collaboration with the stakeholders. So far, 41 farmers are lined up to receive Swakara ewes through the Scheme.

4.3.1.6 Livestock Supportive Services

- In support of the Beef Industry, the Ministry assisted in collecting and processing data on Livestock Performance Testing (Phases A, B and D)¹. Performance Testing is a very important livestock improvement tool which aims to promote economically and biologically efficient beef production. To this end 1,677 bulls of various breeds (Bonsmara, Nguni, Braunvieh, Afrikaner, Brahman, Bradford and Hereford) participated in Phase D test.
- In our effort to continuously improve the quality of livestock north of the Veterinary Cordon Fence, the Ministry auctioned seven (7) pure-bred Sanga bulls and 25 pure-bred Sanga cows at Alex Muranda LDC in the Kavango Region.
- The Ministry through its specialized Scheme entitled Provision of Livestock Breeding Materials Directly to Communal Farmers or the Bull Scheme, has sold 176 bulls and 110 rams to selected communal farmers at a subsidized price.
- The study on dairy production in selected communal areas namely Oshikoto Region (Omuthiya), Erongo Region (Omatjete), Otjozondjupa Region (Ovitoto), Caprivi Region (Kongola), Hardap Region (Gibeon) and Omusati Region (Omakange) has been completed, and the

¹ ¹Phase A deals with measures of reproduction, ease of calving traits of the cows, mothering ability in terms of pre-weaning and weaning weights of the calves. Phase B deals with post weaning growth rates of young heifers, bulls and oxen evaluated under normal fanning conditions. Phase D deals with post weaning of young bulls evaluated by means of performance tests under controlled conditions on the farm of the participant.

document is available for implementation.

4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The new Pivot centre for irrigation at Bagani and Mannheim Research Station will be installed and will be used for seed production on a 20 and 10 ha field respectively.
- Ten ha of land will be de-bushed at Katima/Liselo and six ha at Bagani for dry land research activities. The de-bushed land will be used for the production of seeds and other research activities.
- Training on nutritional value of local indigenous plant resources using the High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) will be conducted.
- The Ministry will continue to provide botanical information to stakeholders.
- The Ministry will collaborate with Millennium Challenge Account - Namibia on Indigenous Natural Products activities.
- The Ministry will continue to participate in regional research and Development Programmes in order to build in-house capacity within the Ministry.
- The Vegetation Survey of Namibia towards the North-west and south-west will be expanded, to fill crucial gaps. Information on vegetation will be published.
- The Ministry's database will be developed in a way that data on various botanical sub-disciplines in the National Botanical Research Institute are linked to that of ministry's results and information that is available on the internet.
- The MAWF weather station network will be expanded.
- Monitor long-term vegetation with regards to effects of land use and climate change.
- The Ministry will continue to maintaining automated weather stations at

all research and training institutions.

- The Ministry will continue collaborating with the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew in the United Kingdom through a further phase of the Millennium Seed Bank Project.
- The labeling of plants will be updated and expanded while the national botanical garden as a truly valuable national asset for research education and tourism purposes will be promoted.
- The Ministry will continue with analytical services in feed-lick composition to facilitate registration of the licks, plant and soil samples, interpretation of results and recommend appropriate fertilizer types and application rates
- The Ministry will continue to seek accreditation from the Agricultural Laboratories of Southern Africa by completing the due accreditation process.
- More research on the chemical and nutritional value of value added products will be conducted.
- The Ministry will continue to multiply breeder, foundation and certified seeds of sorghum, pearl millet and legumes as well as supply quality planting materials of cassava and sweet potato.
- Propagation of mango and citrus fruit trees seedlings for the community will continue.
- The Ministry will continue with improvement of indigenous livestock and the supply of improved livestock breeding material to the farming communities through auctions, Swakara Support Scheme and the Bull Scheme.
- Investigation of the effects of mating seasons on reproductive and productive performance of the Simmentaler stud herd at John Alphons Pandeni Research Station will continue.
- On-station conservation and development of indigenous and strategic

- livestock such as Namibian goat breeds, Sanga, Afrikaner, Bonsmara, Simmentaler cattle, Damara and Swakara sheep will be continue.
- The survey in the Omusati Region, south of Okahao using Browse Estimate by Canopy Volume model will continue. Omusati has been chosen for this project based on the dominant occurrence of shrub Mopani which constitutes a major source of livestock forage.
 - Baseline vegetation surveys on Alex Muranda, Kalahari, Gellap-Ost, Mashare and Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Centre will be conducted.
 - Strategies to promote small scale dairy production in selected communal areas of Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, Caprivi, Hardap and Erongo regions will be implemented.
 - Livestock breeding materials (poultry, pigs and goats) will be avail to marginalized communities of Namibia.
 - Embark on the awareness campaign about the importance of Performance Testing services to communal farmers with the view to increase a large pool of participation.
 - The Ministry will finalize a survey on Urban and Peri-urban agriculture in Windhoek in order to investigate its contribution to people's livelihood.

4.4 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

4.4.1 SUPPORT TO THE PROCESSING OF INDIGENOUS PLANTS AND MAHANGU

4.4.1.2 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$500,000.00)

- Analysis of nutritional contents of the Moringa tree leaves has been conducted.
- Marama bean cultivation trials were conducted in Omaheke Region in order to improve livelihood through sales of grain.
- The Product development section conducted nutritional values and chemical composition analysis on the Mahangu cookies.

- In order to facilitate the Mahangu cookies' entry to the market, bar-coding was designed and operationalised.
- Mahangu cookies were launched during the 2012/2013 Financial Year.
- Green Leafy vegetable leaflets were published.

4.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Analysis for nutritional and oil content of the *Moringa ovalifolia* products will continue.
- The Ministry will continue with the assessment of the sustainability and viability of *Hibiscus sabdariffa* (Mutete) and *Thamnosma africana* as potential tea products and conduct a study consumer demand.
- The palatability test of the value added *Mutete*, *Cleome* and *Amaranthus* products Continue with.
- Investigate the development of products from manketti fruit and determine their shelf life.
- Multiply *Citrullus lanatus* (Kalahari melon seed) for distribution to farmers.
- Support Tulongeni Twahangana Cooperative in de-pulping *Ximenia americana* (eembeke) for oil processing.

4.4.2 DEVELOPMENT OF LIVESTOCK BREEDING AND MARKETING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE COMMUNAL AREAS

4.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2012/2013 (N\$4,925,000.00)

- The infrastructure development (i.e. staff houses, camps, electric fence, office block, water reticulation and sewage system) of Oshaambelo Livestock Development Centre in Omusati Region has been completed.
- The cattle herd has been increased from thirty six (36) to sixty one(61)

Afrikaner cattle at Omatjenne Research Station.

4.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Pay retention fees for the completed phase three (senior staff house and junior staff houses) at Oshambelo Livestock Development Centre.

4.4.3 UPGRADING, MAINTENANCE OF FARM INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENT OF IRRIGATION SYSTEMS AT TRAINING INSTITUTION AND RESEARCH STATIONS

The Government recognized the urgent need for the upgrading of farm infrastructure and irrigation systems, not only to enhance research but also to serve as a catalyst for new research impetus.

4.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2012/2013 (N\$12,157,000.00)

4.4.3.1.1 Alex Muranda Livestock Development Centre

- The seven kilometer access road has been upgraded.

4.4.3.1.2 Sonop Research Station

- Renovation of two houses and alteration of three existing staff houses has been completed and handed over.

4.4.3.1.3 National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)

- The feasibility study for the expansion of the facilities at NBRI has been completed.

4.4.3.1.4 Mashare Agricultural Development Institute

- A tender has been advertised and the evaluation report was tabled and approval by the Ministerial Tender Board committee.

4.4.3.1.5 Mannheim Research Station

- The construction of 10 houses (2 bedrooms) for staff accommodation has been completed and they were officially handed over.

4.4.3.1.6 Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Centre

- One Delux incubator Set and its accessories has been procured for the poultry section.

4.4.3.1.7 Omahenene Research Station

- A linear center Pivot was installed on a 20 ha seed production field.

4.4.3.1.8 Analytical Laboratory

- Marula oil refining equipment as well as the Mahangu instant porridge processing equipments were procured at the tune of 660,000.00. These equipments were leased to Natural Oil Refiners and Distributors (NORD) in Ohangwena Region and Heike Fifty-Four Investment (PTY) LTD in Omusati Region for the development and value addition to Mahangu and marula fruits product.

4.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- A two bedroom house for staff accommodation at Kalahari Research Station will be constructed.
- A new ablution block at the hostel at Gellap-Ost Research Station will be constructed.
- A two bedroom house at Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Centre will be constructed.
- Upgrade the current guesthouse at Mashare Agricultural Development Institute (MADI) into self contained flats for staff accommodation
- The house of the former Chief Agricultural Training Officer (CATO) will be converted into a guesthouse and the livestock handling facilities at MADI will be upgraded.

- Upgrade and install the irrigation and sewer systems at the Mannheim Research Station.
- Construct a cool room for seed storage at the Mannheim Research Station.
- Upgrade and install an irrigation system at Bagani Research Station
- Install a water reticulation system at the Sachinga Research Station

5. MAIN DIVISION 05 : AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 145 004 000

CAPITAL BUDGET : N\$ 6,431,000

5.1 OBJECTIVES

- To contribute to increased food production and household food security.
- To provide extension services in the form of information, advice and training to farmers, agro-based industries and other stakeholders.
- To promote technology development, adaptation and adoption.
- To formulate and implement regulations and policies for the Agriculture Sector.

5.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Provide Agricultural Extension Services in the form of advice and training to farmers and stakeholders.
- Promote technology development, adaptation, and adoption and information dissemination in the Agricultural Sector.
- Identify and implement technological needs and requirements in the areas of agronomy, mechanisation, animal husbandry, soil conservation and agricultural structures.

- Ensure conformity to regulations and policies on plant health and agro-chemicals quality and safety for the Agriculture Sector.
- • Register agro-chemicals and farm feeds.

5.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

5.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$ 140 539 000)

5.3.1.1 Farmers Advice and Training

- A total of 137 training sessions were conducted in collaboration with NGOs, other stakeholders.
- A total of three thousand five hundred and forty six (1,921 male and 1,625 female) farmers received training in various fields of agricultural covering amongst others: poultry production, crop husbandry, horticulture, production, fertilizer application, climate change adaptation, test, animal husbandry practices, rangeland management, basic financial management, record keeping and HIV & AIDS impact on agricultural productivity.

5.3.1.2 On-farm Trials and Demonstrations

- Two hundred and eighty two trials and demonstrations were hosted in all 13 regions and were attended by one thousand two hundred and twenty two farmers. These demonstrations, and on-farm trials covered the following areas;
 - Land preparation using different implements (ripper, disc harrow, plough and fertilizer applicators).
 - Chemical fertilizers and kraal manure applications
 - Rice and sunflower production.
 - Weeding with animal drawn cultivators
 - Drip irrigation techniques

- Crop and animal husbandry
- Handling of veterinary remedies and tools
- Vaccination of animals
- Rangeland management
- Carrying capacity determination.

5.3.1.3 Rain Fed Crop Production Programme

- The Rain Fed Crop Production Programme (DCPP) was implemented in the following regions; Kavango, Caprivi, Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati, Kunene and partly in Otjozondjupa and Omaheke to increase food production in the country.
- Through the Programme, farmers were assisted with subsidized farm inputs and services.

Table 1: Total number of Equipment Deployed in the Regions

Region	Tractors	Working Tractors	Planters	Disc Harrows	Mouldboard Ploughs	Rippers	Mobile Units
Caprivi	12	4	12	7	11	7	2
Kavango	12	4	12	12	3	8	2
Omusati	10	5	10	11	4	7	1
Ohangwena	14	5	15	14	6	10	2
Oshikoto	12	4	12	12	4	6	1
Oshana	11	4	11	11	3	6	1
Kunene North	4	3	4	4	2	1	1
Omaheke	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Otjozondjupa	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	35	76	71	33	45	10

Table 2: Type-wise Quantity of Fertilizer Procured and Distributed in the Regions for the 2012/2013 Cropping Season

Type of Fertilizer	Quantity of bags (50 Kg)	Place	Region
Nitrogen Phosphate Potassium (NPK = 2:3:2) 37%	300	Katima Mulilo	Caprivi
	376	Uukwangula	Oshana
	350	Onayena	Oshikoto
	292	Eenhana	Ohangwena
	1000	Outapi	Omusati
	1000	Okahao	Omusati
	400	Gobabis	Omaheke
	50	Grootfontein	Otjozondjupa
Monoammonium Phosphate (MAP = 0.7% Zinc)	538	Uukwangula	Oshana
	50	Onayena	Oshikoto
	500	Outapi	Omusati
	500	Okahao	Omusati
	100	Gobabis	Omaheke
Ammonium Sulphate (21% Nitrogen)	169	Uukwangula	Oshana
	100	Onayena	Oshikoto
	300	Outapi	Omusati
	300	Okahao	Omusati
	20	Gobabis	Omaheke
Limestone Ammonium Nitrogen (LAN = 28% Nitrogen)	100	Outapi	Omusati
	100	Okahao	Omusati
	100	Eenhana	Ohangwena
Urea (46% Nitrogen)	50	Mile 30	Kavango
	132	Uukwangula	Oshana
	50	Onayena	Oshikoto
	100	Eenhana	Ohangwena

A total number of three thousand four hundred and fifty one (3,451) farmers procured fertilizers during the 2011/2012 cropping season. This represents

an increase of 43% in the number of farmers procuring fertilizer, as compared to one thousand nine hundred and fifty (1,950) farmers during the 2010/2011 cropping season.

5.3.1.4 Seed Distribution

- During the 2011/2012 cropping season a total of sixteen thousand three hundred and forty eight (16,348) farmers procured one hundred and forty nine (149) tons of seeds (maize, pearl millet, sorghum and cowpeas). This represents an increase of 39% in quantity of seed procured and 34% in the number of farmers as compared to ninety one tons (91t) and ten thousand eight hundred and sixty eight (10,868) farmers in 2010/2011 cropping season respectively.

5.3.1.5 Ploughing Services

- During the Financial Year 212/2013, the Ministry recruited and trained seventy five (75) contractual tractor drivers to provide ploughing services in the crop growing Regions.
- During the 2011/2012 cropping season, eleven thousand five hundred and thirty two (11,532) ha were ploughed. This represents an increase of 41% compared to six thousand six hundred (6,600) ha that was ploughed during the 2010/2011 cropping season.
- A total of six thousand seven hundred and thirty eight (6,738) farmers benefited from ploughing services. This is an increase of 42% compared to three thousand nine hundred and sixteen (3,916) farmers that benefited during the 2010/2011 cropping season.

5.3.1.6 Weeding Services

- During the 2011/2012 cropping season a total number of four thousand seven hundred and twelve (4,712) ha were weeded, benefiting two thousand two hundred and ninety nine (2,299) farmers. There was an increase of 23% of fields weeded and 33% increase in the number of farmers who benefited compared to 3,637 ha and 1,530 farmers in 2010/2011 cropping season respectively.

5.3.1.7 Crop Production

Efforts were made to strengthen farmers' capacity in the use of appropriate farming methods and practices in order to increase food productivity and improve food security in the country.

- One farmer from Okongo constituency in Ohangwena Region was crowned as the overall winner of the National Mahangu Championship for the 2011/2012 cropping season at Oshipe Mahangu Festival held in Eenhana. The farmer produced 46,3 tons of mahangu on a 15.6 hectare field. Other regional winners from Caprivi, Kavango, Oshikoto, Oshana, Omusati and Otjozondjupa were also awarded with prizes in category 2.
- A total of 600MT of millet grains and 4,700MT of maize grains from the National Strategic Food Reserves was sold to the Emergency Management Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister. Meanwhile, 70MT of millet grains and over 1,000MT of maize grains from the same reserves were sold to small scale millers. Revenue amounting to eighteen million Namibian Dollars (N\$18 million) was generated.
- Six thousand five hundred and Ninety two metric tons (6,592MT) of maize grains and five hundred and sixty five metric tons (565MT) of millet grains were procured from the Green Scheme Projects and National Youth Service for storage in the National Strategic Food Reserves.

5.3.1.8 Livestock Production and Marketing

- The Ministry facilitated several auctions, permit days, contract sales and individual marketing of livestock. In that regard, a combined total of 15,066 goats, 8,473 sheep and 6,254 cattle were sold throughout the country.

5.3.1.9 Community Based Organizations

The Ministry assisted existing Community-based Organizations in planning, implementing and reviewing their organizational activities which

are geared towards community development.

- The Ministry facilitated the establishment of ten (10) farmers associations in North Central Division.
- The Existing Community Based Organizations (CBOs) have been strengthened through the provision of training, planning and management of their organizational activities which are geared towards community development and their by-laws was formulated. A total of sixty seven (67) CBOs in Omaheke, Karas and Hardap Regions were assisted with planning and reviewing of their activities.
- Tulongeni Twahangana Producers in Ohangwena Region was assisted by DEES with its restructuring to become a legal entity as a Tulongeni Twahangana Cooperative Ltd. This cooperative harvests and market Ximenia Americana (indigenous plants).
- Community-based organizations received funds from stakeholders, NGO's such as the ZERI project (UNAM). In this regard, Ongulayanetanga mushroom project in Ohangwena Region was assisted with the construction of a mushroom house.
- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has donated 150 chickens to Meameno Community Garden Project in Omulonga constituency in Ohangwena region as part of enhancing gender equality through food security and livelihood improvement initiatives;
- GOPA has given nine (9) bulls to farmers in Epembe Constituency in Ohangwena Region who are actively engaged in Community-based Rangeland and Livestock Management.

5.3.1.10 Farm Visits

- Three hundred and eighty one (381) farm visits were conducted by field extension staff on which a total number of three thousand eight hundred and eighty five (3,885) farmers were visited.

5.3.1.11 Emerging Commercial Farmers

- Technical advice and support was provided to ninety four (94) resettled

farming units on the application of drilling boreholes, grazing monitoring, feed mixing, improvement of infrastructures and facilities, animal husbandry, prevention of veld fires, rangeland management and horticulture production.

5.3.1.12 Exposure Trips

- Fifty one (51) farmers from Omaheke and Kunene regions together with extension staff visited the marketing facilities in Karas and Hardap regions and also Etunda and Etaka irrigation projects in Omusati region to instill knowledge, inspiration, courage and techniques on farmers on how to optimally use resources (water and land) to produce more food.

5.3.1.13 Support to Urban and Pea-urban Horticulture

In a quest to contribute to increased food production, improved household food security and employment creation, the Ministry continued to support the existing gardens and establishment of new gardens in urban and peri-urban localities.

- A total of eleven (11) new gardens were established in Gibion and Hoachanas in Hardap region and Okongo in Ohangwena region. The Ministry also strengthened the provision of advice of the seventy one (71) established gardens in Oshana, Hardap and Karas continued.

5.3.3.14 Mass and Print Media

- The Ministry disseminated information on the agricultural sector through agricultural publications to farmers country-wide. A total of 3142 copies of agricultural newsletters, 1,427 calendars and booklets and 2,532 leaflets and pamphlets were produced. The pamphlets were translated into local languages and distributed to the farmers.
- The information contained in the pamphlet ranged from Boer goat management, animal husbandry, crop husbandry, chicken farming, gardening, conservation agriculture, fertilizer application, Fan meat standard and climate change adaptation.

5.3.1.15 Farmer's Information Days

- One hundred and eighty one (181) information days were held for farmers across the country in collaboration with stakeholders such as Meatco, Farmers Unions, Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) and Meat Board. A total of four thousand nine hundred and forty two (4,942) farmers participated, of which two thousand six hundred and forty seven (2,647) were male and two thousand two hundred and ninety five (2,295) were female.
- The following topics were covered:
 - Weeding with a cultivator,
 - Dry Land Crop Production Programme,
 - Crop Management
 - Double ear tagging,
 - Lick feeding programs,
 - Livestock management
 - De-bushing and fire management
 - o Livestock breeding cycles

5.3.1.16 Phytosanitary Services

The Ministry continued to carry out phytosanitary inspections on farms that are exporting crops to ensure that production procedures are conforming to international standards.

- The Law Enforcement subdivision has successfully endeavored to have plant health and phytosanitary matters addressed by the different stakeholders in a coordinated manner. To this end, it has formulated a series of legislative pieces of phytosanitary importance. The series consists of administrative rules, normative and services instructions that regulate the programs, so as to ensure comprehensive attention to plant health and phytosanitary services.
- Among legislative pieces prepared is the Livestock Improvement draft bill that was approved by Cabinet and the Agricultural Enhancement Agents Bill to be tabled before the fifth parliament. The Agricultural Enhancement Agent Bill is a major tool for carrying out initiatives in the field of agricultural enhancements and seeks to establish guidelines and define institutional responsibilities pertaining to the registration of fertilizers, farm feeds, agricultural remedies, stock remedies, sterilizing

plants and pest control operators.

- In addition, local inspections, surveillance programmes, registration of agricultural remedies, fertilizers, farm feeds and stock remedies, renewals, inspections of retailers and manufacturers, continues unabated.
- The subdivision also continues to facilitate the promotion of livestock take-off from previously disadvantaged areas by facilitating the establishments of auction kraals.

5.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Procure additional tractors and implements to ensure effective and efficient service provision to farmers in the crop growing areas.
- The implementation and monitoring of Draught Animal Power Acceleration Programme will continue in areas where mechanized services cannot easily be provided.
- Encourage, support and facilitate the formation of Farmers Associations, Community Based Organizations and projects.
- Continue to build capacity in various areas relevant to the Agricultural Sector.
- Continue to disseminate information and advice to emerging, resettlement, and Affirmative Action Loan Scheme farmers.
- Continue to implement the following activities: viable community action plans, income generating activities and agricultural technology development as part of the Farming System Research and Extension approach.
- Strengthen border control inspection capacity to ensure that all agricultural products entering and leaving the country are recorded and are in conformity with the acceptable standards.
- Continue to ensure that registers are kept at all points of entry to verify

the origin and destination of registered products and genetic livestock material for traceability purpose.

- Strengthen control measures to regulate agro-chemicals use as well as trading of pesticides and other remedies especially by street vendors, and concurrently informing the public on the danger that is associated with illegal unlabelled and unregistered pesticides.
- Facilitate the process of setting up trade protocols concerning export of livestock and genetic material.
- The Law Enforcement Subdivision is further contemplating on the introduction of a computerized system (the paperless initiative project) for issuing all biosecurity related certificates to the clients as a way of positioning the Law Enforcement subdivision to meet increasing demand and to ensure the biosecurity system is effective and sustainable into the future.
- Following the budget allocation of about N\$22 million for the establishment of Plant Health and Biosecurity Lab only in 2015/16, the Law Enforcement Subdivision will focus on suitable site searching activities. A feasibility study for the establishment of the laboratory will be carried out.
- Continue to encourage the establishment of community gardens in order to improve household food security.
- Establish demonstration plots at the Agricultural Development Centers and other identified sites for training purposes.

5.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS

5.4.1 CONSTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

5.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$4,160,000.00)

- The Kamanjab ADC - office building and also a staff house in Kunene Region has been completed.
- The Aroab ADC - office complex plus two staff houses in Karas region, has been completed.

- Okau-Kamasheshe ADC - office building and a staff house in Oshana Region has been completed.
- King Kauluma ADC - office complex and a staff house in Oshikoto Region has been completed.
- Oshikunde ADC - office building and a staff house in Ohangwena Region has been completed and
- Onawa ADC - office building and a staff house has been completed.

5.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

Construction of the following ADCs will commence during the 2013/2014 Financia Year:

- Muparara ADC in Kavango Region will be constructed.
- Kamanjab ADC in Kunene Region will be constructed,
- Aroab ADC in Karas Region will be constructed.
- Okaukamasheshe ADC in Oshana Region will be constructed, and
- Edundja ADC in Ohangwena Region will be constructed.

5.4.2 SUPPORT TO LIVESTOCK MARKETING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COMMUNAL FARMERS

5.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$7,000,000.00)

- The construction of Oshifo auction facility in Omusati region was completed.
- The construction of the auction facility at Opuwo in Kunene region has commenced and is progressing well.

5.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Construction of an auction facility at Lusesse, in Caprivi Region.
 - Advertisement, tendering and award of the tender during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- Construction of an auction facility at Ompundja in Oshana Region
 - Design, preparation of the bill of quantities and tender document,
 - Submission of draft tender document to the Ministerial Tender Board Committee and
 - Advertisement, tendering and award will be done during 2013/2014 Financial Year

5.4.3 DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

5.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$ 1,145 000)

- Construction of the Technology Center at Rundu is 50% completed.
- Land for the construction of the Ongwediva Technology Centre has been secured.

5.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Complete the construction of the Technology Center at Rundu.
- Invite tender for the construction of Technology Center at Ongwediva, and start with the construction of the Technology Centre at Ongwediva.
- Develop and conclude a Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the technology centers.

6. MAIN DIVISION 06 : AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 41,122,000.00

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET : N\$250,276,000.00

6.1 OBJECTIVE

- To plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of Programmes and projects on irrigation, livestock, agro-industry, and rain fed crop production, horticulture, marketing, and storage of agricultural products.

6.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of the Green Scheme Programme.
- Supervise the construction of irrigation projects.
- Provide technical advice on planning of farm dams, pipe lines and soil and water conservation structures to farmers.
- Provide technical advice to line Ministries, NGO's and private organizations on agricultural mechanization, farm buildings, grain storage facilities and agro-industries.

6.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

6.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$29,869,000.00)

- Assisted with the management and operation of the Green Scheme Irrigation Projects, namely; Sikondo, Shadikongoro, Uvungu-vungu, Ndonga Linena, Musese, Mashare, Etunda, Hardap, Tandjieskopje, Kalimbeza, and Orange River Irrigation Project (ORIP).
- Facilitated the planning design, of silos at Omuthiya (Oshikoto region) and supervised the construction of the silo for rice at Katima Mulilo (Caprivi region) respectively.
- Completed the construction of the Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs in Ongwediva and Rundu respectively.
- Started with the construction of the Agricultural Technology Centres at

Rundu.

- Completed the construction of Sikondo Irrigation Project. Various equipment that were purchase for the Green Scheme Projects were delivered and commissioned.

6.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Facilitate the planning, designing and tendering of the earth works for the Fresh Produce Marketing Hub in Windhoek
- Continue to monitor and supervise the expansion of Silos at Omuthiya, and also Planning and design of the expansion of the Okongo silo.
- Monitor and supervise the construction of Uvungu-Vhungu Dairy Project, Shadikongoro, Ndonga Linena Phase 2, Musese, Mashare, Etunda phases 7 & 8, Kalimbeza, and ORIP.
- Monitor and supervise the implementation of the Tandjieskopje irrigation project.
- Continue to identify suitable land for irrigation in the country for the development of the Green Scheme Programme.
- Facilitate feasibility studies for Liselo in the Caprivi Region and Zone Agricultural Project in the Kavango Region.
- Continue to upgrade irrigation infrastructures at the Green Scheme Projects.

6.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS

6.4.1. GREEN SCHEME

6.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$ 215 932 000)

- Construction of a logistics center at Sikondo Irrigation Project was completed.
- Construction of the bulk water services at Etunda Phases 7 and 8 was

completed and a tender for the construction of the logistic center, staff and medium scale farmer's accommodation as well as the pump station and an access road was advertised. Unfortunately no eligible tenders were received and it was re-advertised. The new tender was advertised, evaluated and awarded and construction will start in the new financial year.

- Consultants for Uvungu-vungu Dairy Project were appointed and the designs for the project were done. Tenders for different portions of the project were advertised. A tender for the fencing of the project was awarded and construction is underway.
- Consultants for Ndonga Linena were appointed. The design and tender documents are completed for the fencing, silos, pump stations, electrical distribution, and main supply line. Irrigation works were completed and advertised. The construction of the fencing will start during 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- Consultants for Musese were appointed and a survey was done to enable them to do the designs and tender documents for the expansion of the project in order to make provision for the 10 Medium scale farmers at the project. Approximately 90 ha out 110 ha land which is earmarked for the small scale farmers has been de-bushed.
- Consultants were appointed for the expansion of Mashare. An aerial survey was done and an inception report has been submitted. Preliminary designs are underway.
- A design made for a new pump station was advertised and evaluated and construction will start at Shadikongoro Irrigation Project during 2013/2014.
- Consultants were appointed for the designs and supervision of the expansion of the irrigation area at the Orange Irrigation Project as well as for the designs for a potable water system and of accommodation of the permanent staff at the project.

6.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Finalize construction of phases 7 and 8 at Etunda Irrigation Project.
- Construct four two-bedroom houses for laborers and also five eight-single quarters at ORIP.
- Develop eighteen hectares (18 ha) of additional land at ORIP.
- Construct a 2,000 ton silo at Ndonga Linena Irrigation Project.
- Expand phase 2 of the Ndonga-Linena Irrigation Project.
- Continue with the construction of the new dairy facility at Uvungu-vungu.
- Develop two hundred and fourteen hectares (214ha) of additional irrigable land at Uvungu-vungu.
- Construct a pump station at Shadikongoro Irrigation Project.
- Construct the main supply line, pump station, irrigation system, silo and logistics center at Mashare.
- Construct the main supply line, pump station, irrigation system, farmer's house and green house at Musese.
- Facilitate feasibility studies for new irrigation projects in the Kavango as well as in the Caprivi Regions.

6.4.2 INTEGRATED GRAIN STORAGE

6.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$6,729,000.00)

- The design and tender documents for the construction of the silo at Omuthiya were completed and advertised.

6.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Complete the construction of the silo at Omuthiya as well as the construction of 2 staff houses and an office complex.

6.4.3 NATIONAL HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

6.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2012/2013 (N\$52,221,000)

- The Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs at Ongwediva and Rundu were completed and inaugurated by His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba.
- The location for the Fresh Produce Hub in Windhoek has been identified.

6.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2013/2014

- The Environmental Impact Assessment, rezoning and surveys for Fresh Produce Marketing Hub in Windhoek will be conducted and thereafter, the design and earth works will begin.

6.4.4 KALIMBEZA RICE IRRIGATION PROJECT

6.4.4.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$5,000,000.00)

- The construction of 16 bedrooms houses have started.
- The construction of the 700 tons rice silo at Katima Mulilo has been completed and commissioned.
- The construction of an office block and the processing facilities has also started.
- New equipment for the production and processing of rice were purchase and delivered.

6.4.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Complete the construction of staff houses.
- Complete the construction of warehouses, office block, green house, rice processing and store room.

MAIN DIVISION 07 : PLANNING

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 99,521,000.00

7.1 OBJECTIVES

- To provide strategic management support services to the Ministry.
- To promote effective marketing and trade of Namibia's agricultural and processed agricultural products.
- To promote and regulate the development of cooperatives in the country.

7.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Contribute to the creation of a conducive policy environment for the agriculture, water, forestry and co-operative sub-sectors through regular policy review and development;
- Create conducive domestic market conditions for an increased market share of Namibia agricultural and processed agricultural products.
- Secure new export markets and improve market access conditions for Namibia's agricultural and processed agricultural products by participating in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade negotiations.
- Create conducive conditions for value addition to Namibia's primary agricultural products.
- Conduct project appraisals, monitoring and evaluation of the Ministry's Programmes as well as impact assessments.
- Maintain a database of agricultural production, processing and market data, statistics and information for the agriculture industry and other stakeholders;
- Improve local communities livelihoods by empowering them through

the development of co-operatives and to facilitate rural development through introduction of income-generating activities, agro business development and value addition;

7.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

7.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/2013 (N\$105,002,000.00)

- Compiled and submitted the Annual Capital Projects Progress Reports to the National Planning Commission Secretariat.
- Coordinated and compiled the development budget for the 2013/2014-2015/2016 Medium Term and Expenditure Framework period.
- Assessed the implementation of Rain Fed Crop Production Programme in all the crop growing Regions.
- Continued to promote bilateral and multilateral co-operations in the field of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. To this end, the Ministry concluded two (2) bilateral agreements namely:
 - Memorandum of Understanding between Argentina and Namibia.
 - Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and the State of Palestine.
- The Ministry increased the Market Share Promotion initiative from 37.5% to 39% to increase the share of locally produced horticultural produce in the domestic market.
- The Ministry successfully engaged Namibia's trading partners in various bilateral agreements aimed to diversify and access market opportunities for the Namibian beef and beef products with respect to China, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola.
- Continued the implementation of Southern African Customs Union rebate quota facility through issuance of rebate permits for the duty-free importation of wheat, cheese, butter, skimmed and whole milk powder.
- Conducted three agro-assessments in the six crop growing regions of

- the country to monitor the crop and food security situation as well as availability of agricultural inputs at household level.
- Improved the operation of the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS).
 - Compiled and disseminated the following publications:
 - 2011/2012 Crop Assessment and Household Food Security Report,
 - 2012/2013 Annual Agricultural Input and Household Food Security Report,
 - AMIS five year Strategic & Implementation Plans
 - The Ministry continued to administer the *Co-operatives Act*, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996) and implement the National Co-operative Policy that creates the legal and enabling environment for co-operative development in Namibia.
 - Reviewed the National Co-operative Policy
 - Provisionally registered 14 new co-operatives, namely:
 - Tulongeni Twahangana Co-operative (TTC) Ltd.
 - Zakumuka Producers Co-operative (ZPC) Ltd.
 - Aanafaalama Agricultural Co-operative Ltd.
 - Ozongondjero Omahi Mahi Genetic Improvement Co-operative Ltd.
 - Aspiring Farmers Development Co-operative Ltd.
 - Nooitgedacht Multi-purpose Co-operative Ltd.
 - Okatunda ka Haudano Savings and Credit Co-operative Ltd.
 - Othithiya Farmers' Fresh Vegetables Co-operative Ltd.
 - Kunene Livestock Marketing Co-operative Ltd.
 - Oruue Multi-purpose Co-operative Ltd.
 - Huisen Farmers Co-operative Ltd.
 - Tegako 2020 Women in Business Co-operative Ltd.
 - Namibia Livestock Breeders' Co-operative Ltd. And
 - Omaundjiro Farmers' Co-operative Ltd.

- Ngaukondja Multi-purpose Co-operative Ltd. was fully registered. This brings the total number of fully and provisionally registered co-operatives to 7 and 85 respectively.
- The Ministry is currently considering business plans of four co-operatives for full registration.
- Conducted three Co-operative College² courses on Co-operative Member Education.
- Conducted four Foundation Bookkeeping courses.
- Conducted completion of books and audit sessions in the Hardap, Karas and Omaheke Regions.
- Finalize the conversion of Agra Co-operative Ltd. into a Public Limited Company.
- Facilitated and assisted six co-operatives to participate at the Co-operative Trade Expo, Manchester, United Kingdom.

7.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- Finalize the review of National Agricultural Policy.
- Coordinate the implementation of the Ministry's Strategic Plan.
- Conduct Monitoring and evaluation of ministerial development Programmes.
- Compile the Ministry's Development Budget.
- Facilitate the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP)
- Continue to participate in the ongoing bilateral, regional and

² The Co-operative College is established to provide training to co-operative members and stakeholders assisting and willing to assist co-operatives.

multilateral trade and economic cooperation negotiations.

- Promote bilateral cooperation by facilitating the signing of Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in agriculture with countries like Serbia, Zimbabwe and Angola.
- Continue to promote domestic agricultural production, processing, branding, marketing and distribution.
- Implement the Namibian Agricultural Marketing and Trade and Policy and Strategy.
- Conduct three agro-assessments to monitor the crop and food security situation at household level.
- Participate in the preparations of the Agricultural Census to be conducted in 2013/2014.
- Expand the inter-ministerial operation of the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS).
- Improve the National Early Warning System on Food Security.
- Conduct the following feasibility Studies and Surveys:
 - Meat value addition & incentive options study in cooperation with Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Finance.
 - Meat canning feasibility study.
 - Importance of Swakara Industry in cooperation with Swakara Board.
 - Study on pork and poultry industries in cooperation with respective industries.
 - Advise on amendments of Meat Industry Act and Karakul pelts and Wool Act.

7.4 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

7.4.1 AGRICULTURAL FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND SURVEYS

7.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$3,240,000.00)

- Study on Dairy markets in Namibia
- Consultancy on Border control mechanisms and Agro Trade Bureau.
- Drafted a Bill and held a stakeholders input meetings on the Meatco Draft Bill.
- Compiled state owned enterprises agreements for Namibia Agronomic Board, Meat Board and Swakara Board.

7.4.1.2 As from 2013/2014 Financial Year, the funds for consultations and surveys will be part of the recurrent budget and no longer of development project.

8. MAIN DIVISION 08 : AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$19,235,000.00

8.1 OBJECTIVE

- To support the development of adequate, well-trained human resources required for the sustainable development of the agricultural, water and forestry sectors in Namibia.

8.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Improve managerial, professional and technical skills and competence of staff in delivering the results in line with the strategic plan through in-service training;
- Provide training to the farming communities through short courses;

- Provide practical and skill oriented training in irrigation farming to potential small-scale irrigation farmers;
- Support qualifying training to Ministerial staff and general public in fields critical to agricultural, water and forestry sectors;
- Provide career guidance in agriculture, water and forestry to secondary school learners;

8.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

8.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- The Ministry has successfully supported and coordinated the sponsorship of 101 Ministry's staff members as well as young Namibians from outside the Ministry to pursue studies in critical areas of the agricultural, water and forestry sectors at a cost of N\$4,000,000.00.

Table 3: Field of Study and Status of Bursaries Awarded during 2011/2012 Financial Year.

Name of Field	No. Bursaries Holders	Level of Study	Status of Students
Veterinary Science	27	Bachelor of Science	5 completed 2 changed to Bachelor of Animal science
Animal Nutrition	1	Master of Science	completed
Animal Science	1	Honors	In progress
Animal Science	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Horticulture	1	Master of Science	In progress
Horticulture	4	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Rangeland Management and Grassland Science	1	Master of Science	completed
Agricultural Economics	2	Master of Science	In progress
Rangeland Management and Grassland Science	1	Bachelor of Science	1 completed
Business Management	2	Master of Business Administration	In progress

Integrated Water Resource Management	1	Master of Philosophy	completed
Integrated Water Resource Management	2	Post-graduate Diploma	In progress
Agricultural Engineering	2	Bachelor of Science	completed
Soil and Water Management Engineering	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Environmental Health	2	Bachelor of Science	1 completed
Food Technology	1	Diploma	In progress
Food Science	2	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Food Science	1	Master of Science	In progress
Soil Science	1	Master of Science	In progress
International Water Law	1	Bachelor of Law	Completed
Forestry	2	Master of Science	In progress
Internal Audit	1	Diploma	In progress
Human Resource Management	1	Diploma	In progress
Accounting and Finance	2	Diploma	In progress
Adult Education and Community Development	2	Diploma	In progress
Adult Education and Community Development	3	Bachelor of Technology	In progress
Analytical Chemistry	2	Diploma	1 in progress 1 discontinued
Business Management	1	Bachelor of Technology	In progress
Public Management	1	Bachelor of Technology	In progress
Information Systems	1	Bachelor of Technology	Completed
Plant Breeding and Seed Systems	2	Masters	1 completed
Human Resources Management	1	Bachelor of Technology	In progress
Business Computing	1	Master of Science	In progress
Forestry	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Agro-meteorology	1	Master of Science	In progress
Engineering (Water Hydraulics)	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress

Civil Engineering	1	Diploma	In progress
Natural Resource Management	2	Diploma	In progress
Biological Sciences	1	Master of Science	In progress
Biomedical Sciences	3	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Agronomy and Grassland Sciences	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Animal Physiology	1	Master of Science	In progress
Plant Genetic Resources and Seed Sciences	1	Honors	Completed
Water Utilization	1	Honors	Completed
Statistics	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Human and Social Studies	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Forestry	1	Doctor of Philosophy	In progress
Agricultural Engineering	1	Bachelor of Science	In progress
Business Information Systems	1	Honors	In progress

In addition, the following staff members have secured financial assistance from external sources and are pursuing their studies in the following fields:

- 1x Doctor of Philosophy (Botany) at the University of Hamburg,
- 1x Doctor of Philosophy (Botany) at the Swedish University of Agricultural Science,
- 1x Doctor of Philosophy (Dairy Nutrition) at the Nkwame Nkurumah University,
- 1x Advanced Diploma in Management through the Management College of Africa (MANCOSA)
- 1x Bachelor of Science (Honors) in Seed Ecology at the University of Pretoria,

The Ministry supported professional and technical skills development to the staff members where 212 staff members attended courses on a variety of fields which included the following:

• Scientific Writing Skills	• Sustainable Development and Environmental Management
• Beef Pro Software	• Statistical Method Validation for Test Laboratories
• Poultry Production & Health	• Boer goat Judging
• Government Procurement	• Creative Cooperate Magazine Journalism
• New Technologies for Agricultural Products Processing	• Edible Mushroom Technology for Developing Countries
• Public Administration for Civil Servants	• Female Capacity Building for Developing Countries
• Geographical Information System and Geographical Positioning System	• Hybrid Rice Technology for Developing Countries
• Post-harvest Technology for Developing Countries	• Practical Auditing and Forensic Auditing
• Rainwater Harvesting and Utilization	• Dissemination of Seed Health Testing
• New Technology Popularizing of Agriculture Mechanization	• Phytotrade Africa
• Certificate of Proficiency in English Communication	• Flooding Modeling
• Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Diseases	• Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition
• Post-harvest Technology	• Soybean Processing and Utilization Program
• Protected Cultivation Technology	• Utilizing Indigenous food resources for Food Security
• Sustainable Agricultural Strategies for Rural Development	• Tuberculosis Contagious Abortion(TB/AC)
• Genetics Bioinformatics	• Minute Writing Skills
• Training of Trainers (ToT) on Improving Efficiency of Participation of African Nations in Activities of WTO SPS Committees and International Standard Setting Organization VET-GOV and SPSA Project	• Sprint Rapid Protein Analyzer Machine
• SADCAS ISO/IEC17025 Requirement Internal Audit	• Diagnosis of Haemoparasites
• Lister Engine for Technical Trainers	• Writing for Public Sector
• Hospitality	• Verification and Reconciliation of

	Accounting Transactions
• Poultry Management	• Entrepreneurship Development in Food Processing Sector
• Tractor Operator/ Driving	• Information Technology Auditing Program
• Hoof Trimming and Grooming	• Rice Production
• Strategies for Chemical Management	• International Financial reporting and Standard (IFRS) and Cooperate Governance
• Cleaning Skills	• HIV and AIDS
• Finance for Engineers Master Class	• Protocol

- Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Training Centre (TAZAC) and Mashare Agricultural Development Institute (MA DI) hosted several training Programmes which were attended by 200 participants. The courses conducted were in Computer Applications, Small Stock Production, Vegetable Production, Basic Arc Welding and Fabrication, Statistics, Basic Horticulture, Livestock Production, and Cart Making.
- Provided facilities to 17 NYS members for voluntarily services at TAZAC (7) and MADI (21).
- Over N\$500 000 has been raised through the sales of farm produce such as wheat and maize grain, vegetables and fruits that were produced through various training activities at MADI and TAZAC respectively;
- The Ministry assisted 30 students from various tertiary institutions from both local as well as outside Namibia to gain practical experience through field attachment at various institutions of the Ministry. Institutions included amongst others ST Petersburg State Agrarian University, Russia; University Saad Dahlab De Blida, Algeria; Sokoine University College of Agriculture, Tanzania; Vaal University of Technology, South Africa; Milands State University, Zimbabwe; U NAM and Polytechnic of Namibia.
- The Ministry equipped its staff members with the necessary knowledge, and competency to perform their duties.
- In this regard 63 staff members attended and successfully completed a tailor made Management Development Programmes with University of Stellenbosch that was hosted at NIPAM from 09 July - 12 December

2013. Graduation was held on the 22 February 2013.

8.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Continue to implement programs for training of trainers;
- Develop unit standards for all non-farmer formal training Programmes for accreditation by Namibia Qualification Authority (NQA);
- Develop and/or revise curricula and implement the non-formal training Programmes
- Develop Training Materials ;
- Coordinate In-Service Training;
- Facilitate, coordinate and conduct Farmer Training;
- Implement the Training Policy;
- Monitor and evaluate training programs;
- Coordinate and facilitate the improvement of qualification of MAWF staff and provision of bursaries to the public for studies in critical field in the agriculture, water and Forestry Sectors;
- Develop and implement the Training Database and website
- Review and update the curricula for farmer training in accordance with the National Training Authority unit standards.

9. MAIN DIVISION 09 : EMERGENCY RELIEF

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 1,050,000.00

9.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$ 158 000)

- Procured pesticide in provision for possible pest outbreaks.

9.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Assist farmers in emergency situations that might arise due to flood or drought situations in 2013/2014.

10. MAIN DIVISION 10 : DIRECTORATE OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$48,930,000.00

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET : N\$16,731,000.00

10.1 OBJECTIVES

- To promote sustainable social and economic development through sustainable development of water resources and securing equitable access of water to all sectors of the Namibian population.

10.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Implement the national water policy and legislation for the management of the water resources.
- Co-ordinate, manage and monitor developments in the water sector.
- Develop regulations, procedures and practices to control the equitable allocation of water, the abstraction of water, water quality and other regulatory functions.
- Ensure equitable and reasonable access to the water from the shared perennial border rivers.

10.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

10.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

10.3.1.1 CO-OPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL RIVERS

10.3.1.1.1 Orange Senqu River Basin Commission on Orange River

Orange Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM) made up of riparian states; Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa, was established on the 3rd of November 2000, to serve as technical advisor to the Governments on matters relating to the development, utilization and conservation of the water resources in the River System.

- The Council met in 2012 and held several technical, finance, communication and legal committee meetings to steer Programme implementation.
- Namibia paid its annual membership contribution of N\$500,000.00.
- UNDP-GEF – “Orange / Senqu River transboundary diagnostic analysis and strategic action programme (TDA/SAP)” was carried out. The draft TDA is available and will be completed by 2013. The development of the National Action Plan as part of the TDA/SAP has started with the stakeholder meeting and establishment of the National Coordination Unit.
- With regard to the Irrigation Demonstration Project;
 - (i) A survey of water requirements for crops as well as areas & irrigation systems being used by farmers in the project area was undertaken;
 - (ii) Best practice water abstraction and use monitoring equipment such as soil moisture probes, pump flow & energy meters, canal flow meters, farm off-take measuring structures, and climate data measuring instruments were installed;
 - (iii) Water abstraction and use monitoring schedule was established for the project area;
 - (iv) Crop modeling and water balancing were carried out;
 - (v) Other best practice farming and irrigation methodologies and technologies such as laser flood leveling, mulching, and canal water administration system has been installed; and

(vi) A water management plan for the area is being developed in conjunction with the Joint Irrigation Authority (JIA).

- **E-Flows Research Project** - the following progress has been made:
 - (i) Collecting, processing and improving data such as the Fish river hydrology needed for determining environmental flow requirements (EFRs) at selected sites;
 - (ii) Identified planned developments that would need to be considered when setting EFRs looking at different time horizons i.e. the immediate future (up to 2020), post 2020, and post 2040 (maximum foreseeable development).
- GiZ/UKAID support Phase 3 has started with the focus on IWRM demonstration projects for community. In Namibia the marginal water's project in the re-use of waste water for irrigation in the Keetmanshoop has been undertaken March 2013. The objective of the IWRM Community Project is to strengthen the capacities of local communities to apply IWRM through the adoption of a practical “learning by doing approach”

10.3.1.1.2 Permanent Water Commission on Orange River

The Permanent Water Commission (PWC) Agreement between Namibia and South Africa

- The Ministry hosted the PWC meeting and workshop to develop principles of cooperation with regards to water sharing along the lower Orange River. The deadlock to agree on modalities for Namibia to use water of Orange River continues, these include the quantity of water Namibia is entitled to and whether there should be a fee attached. Draft principles were drafted and will be negotiated further.
- Within the existing contacts of the Hydrological Subcommittee, real-time communication on low and high river flows has been established.

10.3.1.1.3 Zambezi Watercourse Commission on Zambezi River

- An Extra Ordinary Zambezi Transitional Technical Committee meeting was held in Harare, Zimbabwe during the 2012/2013 Financial Year.
- Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) Technical Committee which is an advisory body to the Zambezi Ministers was formalized in 2012 and the first meeting was held on 1st November 2012 in Gaborone, Botswana.
- ZAMCOM Evaluation Committee meeting was held and attended on 3rd to 7th December 2012 in Gaborone, Botswana and Harare, Zimbabwe.
- In order to prepare comprehensive recommendations to ZAMCOM Council of Ministers on the candidate country of the ZAMCOM Secretariat's Host for decision making, an Evaluation Committee was constituted with nominations from each of the Riparian States that are party to Agreement, but did not bid to host the Permanent Secretariat. For evaluation of the Member States proposals, defined criteria were applied according to the guidelines for submission of the proposals.
- An evaluation report was compiled where one country was recommended to host the Permanent Secretariat and the report is to be tabled at the next ZAMTEC and Zambezi Ministers meeting to be held back to back with the SADC Water Ministers' meeting in 2012.
- Paid the annual contribution of US\$25,000 to the Commission.
- Namibia is actively participating in the initiative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and USAID to set up adequate flood response and management systems in the Zambezi River Basin.

10.3.1.1.4 The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission on Okavango River

- The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) between Angola, Botswana and Namibia was established in 1994.
- Attended the annual OKACOM week which took place between May and June 2012 in Luanda, Angola.

- Commissioners, Okavango Basin Steering Committee, Hydrology Task Force, Institutional Task Force and Biodiversity Task Force meetings were held during the year under review.
- The Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)ⁱ was launched during OKACOM week. Discussed and implemented the sustainable financial mechanisms of OKACOM.
- Finalized the formulation of the OKACOM Institutional Functional Analysis.
- Paid an amount of US\$100 000 contribution to OKACOM Secretariat of which US\$50 000 was an advance payment.

10.3.1.1.5 Southern Africa Regional Environment Project

This is a 5 year project under OKACOM which is funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and will mainly contribute to the management and protection of biodiversity. It supports communities with improved water and sanitation and to better adapt to climate change and mitigate adverse impacts of periodic disasters such as floods, droughts and wildfire.

- Project Steering Committee (PSC) was established.
- Progress reports were produced.
- USAID-Namibia supports activities that are carried out in the Caprivi Region coordinated by the SA REP project.

10.3.1.1.6 The Okavango River Basin Management Committee (OkBMC)

- Formulated the TORs for the development of a waste management study to deliver a basin waste management plan as a measure to protect water resources.
- Created awareness at community level in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) e.g. on sanitation

- Developed Participatory Land uses management plans at Mpungu Kapako, Mashare and Ndiyona Constituencies in the Kavango Region.
- Completed the drafting of the constitutions for 2 emerging conservancies namely; Daniel Mpasi Sientu and Katinga Kamwalye.
- Supplied drinking water to the Karugki community

10.3.1.1.7 Water Audit Project

The water audit for the Okavango River Basin is a project under OKACOM, funded by the Italian Government programme called “Coping with Water Scarcity”, and executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization.

- Namibia compiled a Water Resources Assessment Report.
- Hydrology Division compiled the Water Resources Assessment Report, in which trends in meteorological and hydrological time series were analyzed to assess patterns in water resources availability. The main findings have been that the high natural variability, both within and between hydrological seasons prevail and that no long-trends could be identified. Yet, the gaps in the monitoring systems for hydro-meteorological parameters in the upper parts of the catchments and the monitoring systems for groundwater and water quality in Namibia are of a major concern.
- Hydrology Division initiated an advanced training course for the three basin countries of Angola, Botswana and Namibia on the systems modeling software and analysis for the Okavango/Cubango River Basin.

10.3.1.1.8 SADC Water Ministers’ Meeting & Water resources Technical Committee

- The first joint WRTC/Water Strategy Reference Group (WRSG) or ICPs meeting and SADC Secretariat on 4th June to discuss the Third Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP 3) financing and Member States contributions for the RSAP 3 was attended.
- The 5th SADC RBO workshop was held in Harare, Zimbabwe on 5-6

June 2012 and brought together high ranking delegates from all SA DC member States.

- SADC Water Resources Technical Committee meeting was held and attended on 7th to 8th June 2012 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

10.3.1.1.9 African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

- The African Water week meetings for Ministers and Senior Officials were held from the 11th to the 18th of May 2012 in Cairo, Egypt.
- The meeting highlighted the achievements of AMCOW as it marked ten (10) years of existence.
- Paid outstanding amount of about US\$20,000 to AMCOW Secretariat

10.3.1.1.10 Basin Management

The eight Basin Management Committees (BMCs) established to manage water resources at basin level are operational and developed annual action plans.

The eight Basin Committees are:

Kuiseb Basin Management Committee; Iishana Sub-basin Committee; Olushandja Sub-basin Management Committee; Omaruru River Basin Management Committee; Kavango River Basin Committee; The Orange-Fish Basin Management Committee; Niipele Sub-basin Management Committee; and Tsumeb Sub-basin Management Committee.

- Provided technical support to the Basin Management Committees.
- A Basin Coordinating meeting to share experience and report on the progress was held in November 2012.
- Annual action plans were approved at the beginning of the financial year by the steering committee.
- BMCs were jointly funded by the Ministry and The Deutsche Gesellschaft fOr Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GiZ) - Namibia Water

Resource Management project.

10.3.1.1.11 Monitoring, Utilization and Control of Water Resources

- Water levels and flows were continuously monitored at 131 measuring stations in rivers, lakes and dams throughout and on the borders of Namibia.
- The network of automatic measuring, recording and transmission stations was expanded with stations at Okatope (Cuvelai) and Gub and Kuiseb passes (Kuisseb). These stations provide for better early flood warning.
- In total 71 cellular network telemetric transmission units are now functional at 36 stations throughout the country, covering the Cuvelai, Kavango, Kwando, Zambezi rivers in the north, the Orange and Fish Rivers in the south and the Kuiseb and Omaruru rivers in the central area.
- Remote sensing satellite technology is developed to monitor the weather and flooding conditions in neighboring countries where monitoring and direct communication is not achievable. As a result, it was possible to give reliable and timely information on the development and movement of floods during the 2011/12 and 2012/13 rainy seasons.
- The cooperation with international space agencies for acquiring images from satellites for flood mapping was intensified, in particular with the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and the European Space Agency (ESA).
- The new high-tech Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler equipment is now routinely used to measure high flows in the large rivers on Namibia's borders. Measurements were taken at the high floods in the Kavango, Zambezi and Chobe rivers in April 2012.
- The computerized surface water resources information system was upgraded.
- The utilization of the country's water resources were controlled and

managed in accordance with existing water legislation and policy. Forty-seven applications for abstraction of water, excavation of sand and gravel from riverbeds, dams and other works in rivers were evaluated.

- Activities in the water sector were controlled through the issuing of 47 permits for water abstraction, irrigation, lease of state-owned boreholes, the drilling of new boreholes and rehabilitation of existing boreholes in water-controlled areas.
- Groundwater level data was collected from 288 boreholes countrywide that is measured on a daily, monthly and quarterly basis. This Programme comprises an average of 205 water levels being recorded manually every quarter. Many old style chart recorders are being replaced with digital electronic loggers to ensure less maintenance and less vandalism as was happening on the older type loggers.
- The Ministry conducted visits to municipalities, mines and some of the NamWater groundwater schemes in order to gather information necessary for the permit requirements.
- Established the Stampriet and Rehoboth Groundwater management bodies with all stakeholders to improve the management of water resources.

10.3.1.1.12 Groundwater Information System

- The GROWAS Groundwater Information System is in full operation. The intention is to add certain extra modules to it to extend the range of functions it is able to perform. This will make it more user-friendly and more accessible to concerned specialists. The training of staff in the use of the Groundwater Information System is on-going.

10.3.1.1.13 Water Ecology

- The investigation, inventorying and monitoring of wetlands to support sustainable water resource management and utilization continued.
- Bio-monitoring of aquatic invertebrates was carried out along the Orange, Zambezi, Kavango and Kunene rivers for the purpose of

assessing the water quality and to establish a monitoring network. The state of water in most rivers is good except for the seasonal fluctuations in the Orange and Kunene rivers.

- Site monitoring for the invasive aquatic weed *S. molesta* on Zambezi and Kwando Rivers and control agent continued from the Katima Mulilo office.
- Some of the small coastal freshwater wetlands of the Ugab, Huab, Uniab and Hoanib Rivers were examined in September together with people from MET. Aquatic biodiversity and water quality samples were collected to provide a monitoring baseline.
- Quarterly water quality and biodiversity monitoring at Swakopoort Dam was undertaken during the year.

10.3.1.1.14 Water Pollution Control and Compliance Monitoring

- Pollution control and compliance monitoring surveys were conducted and irregularities that were observed during the monitoring were raised. The Programme of action to rectify was requested.
- Technical reports were finalized and wastewater and effluent disposal permits were recommended for issue to Law Administration.

10.3.1.1.15 Drinking Water Quality Monitoring

- Drinking water samples were collected for chemical analysis from different sites as part of a monitoring program by the Water Environment Division to ensure that the water supplied to consumers meet the minimum set standards and guidelines, and is safe for human consumption.
- Namibia Custom Smelter (NCS) Seasonal Water Quality Monitoring and Tsumeb drinking water reservoirs continue. Except for fluctuating arsenic concentration at the tailings dams, the drinking water is still within drinking water quality guidelines.

10.3.1.1.16 Water Quality Regulations

- The following water quality and pollution control regulations were

finalized and forwarded to Law Administration Division for legal drafting:

- Regulations for Potable water
- Regulations for wastewater
- Guidelines on Re-use of Reclaimed water (for irrigation, stock watering and recreation.
- Guidelines for bottled water.
- Guidelines for disposal of solid waste from water and wastewater treatment plants.
- Questionnaire for drinking water works.
- Questionnaire for Wastewater Disposal permits
- Water quality guidelines and standards for potable water and effluent

10.3.1.1.17 Development of Water Quality Database

- The Water Quality Information System Database was developed and installed and the training of staff on its use continues. A service level agreement is needed for support.

10.3.1.1.18 Namibia Water Investment Conference

- A Namibia Water Investment conference was organized and attended in Windhoek on 12 to 14 September 2012. The conference attracted more than 300 participants from across the world and also included Honourable Water Ministers from the SA DC region.

10.3.1.1.19 Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for Sikondo Irrigation project

- Participated in EIAs of the Sikondo Irrigation project.

- The Sikondo Irrigation Project background information document was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Directorate of Environmental Affairs.
- An environmental certificate was issued to the Directorate of Extension and Engineering which was submitted in turn to the Land Board and a certificate was issued for the project to commence.
- During the quarter under review, background data collection and report writing for Uvungu-vungu dairy farm project, Tandjieskoppe irrigation project, Liselo Green Scheme project, Musese Green Scheme project and Muyako agricultural project was done.
- Site visits were conducted in October 2012 for Tandjieskoppe and the first week of December 2012 for other areas.
- Soil samples were collected during the site visits from Liselo and Muyako proposed sites. The team met with some of the relevant stakeholders and staff in the regions. Preliminary reports are in progress.

10.3.1.1.20 African Development Bank

- An African Development Bank meeting was attended on 4th December 2012 at the Ministry's head office. The mission of the meeting was to identify projects in Namibia that could be funded by the bank through a loan. Several stakeholders were met by the two delegates from the bank, such as City of Windhoek and NamWater. One of the major projects identified was the Windhoek Artificial Water Recharge which is listed as an infrastructure project under the SADC Regional Infrastructure Master Plan document.

10.4 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

10.4.1 CO-OPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL RIVERS

10.4.1.1 Orange Senqu River Basin Commission

- Annual council, Finance, Legal, Communication and Technical Task Team meetings and yearly financial contributions to the running of the Secretariat will continue.

- Finalisation of the demonstration project on water conservation for irrigation and environmental flows for the Fish River and Orange River mouth
- Implementation of the IWRM Community demonstration project in Keetmanshoop.
- Develop the strategic action programme (SAP) and National Action Plan (NAP).
- Continue consolidating Basin Wide Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Plan taking into account climate change.
- Carry out Joint Operation of Yield and Planning Models (once/year)

10.4.1.2 The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission

- An annual OKACOM week will take place in May 2013 in Maun, Botswana.
- Finalise OKACOM 5 year plan that incorporates Phase 2 of Sida support.

10.4.1.3 The Okavango River Basin Management Committee (OkBMC)

- Formulate the annual operational plan for 2013/2014.

10.4.1.4 Permanent Water Commission on Orange River

- Joint real-time monitoring and communication systems for water levels, flows and for water quality will be established for the Lower Orange River, including the Fish River being the main Namibian tributary.
- The Vioolsdrift/Noordoewer dam feasibility study will commence.
- Negotiation for the water sharing and use along the lower Orange River, based on the drafted principles of cooperation.

10.4.1.5 Zambezi Watercourse Commission on Zambezi River

- The Zambezi National Stakeholders' Committee will be revived in Namibia and focus on transboundary related issues.
- There will be further endeavours to develop joint monitoring, communication and response system for floods in the upper parts of the Zambezi River Basin.
- ZAMCOM Technical Committee (ZAMTEC) and Zambezi Ministers meeting will take place.
- Make the annual contribution of US\$25,000 to the Commission.

10.4.2 MONITORING, UTILIZATION AND CONTROL OF WATER RESOURCES

- Continued replacement of all the existing analogue recorders with digital loggers.
- Set up a user-friendly interface that will give external stakeholders direct access to the computerized surface water resources system. If and when the long-expected Water Act is promulgated and commenced, a registration campaign for all dams and water abstractions from rivers will start in the Kuiseb and Omaruru catchments and along the perennial rivers, in particular the Kavango and Orange rivers.
- Nitrate pollution will be investigated.
- Expand the groundwater monitoring network and the coverage of the rainfall collector stations within the Cuvelai - Etosha basin.
- Continue to enforce permit conditions related to groundwater abstraction and drilling.
- Continue with regular inspection of all registered drilling contractors to confirm that the contractors meet the necessary requirements regarding their equipment.
- Finalize the process for the declaration of new Water Control Areas in Hochfeld, Eiseb, Eastern Caprivi and Oshivelo areas.

10.4.3 BASIN MANAGEMENT

- Continue the implementation of their annual work plan.
- GIZ-NWRM project funds will be limited to Cuvelai hence the Ministry will take over all of the work plan cost for the six basins outside the Cuvelai. The project will end September 2013.

10.4.4 WATER ECOLOGY

- Wetlands and Water resource quality monitoring will be done at perennial and ephemeral wetlands in the country (Zambezi River, Orange River, Ugab River, Swakoppoort Dam)
- Continue with surveys, aquatic weed monitoring and control in the, Zambezi, Kwando and Linyanti Rivers.
- Finalize the regulations for the Water Act concerning the commercial use of wetland resources and protection of riparian zones.

10.4.5 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- Continue with surveys and investigations in at least 12 Regions.

10.4.6 WATER QUALITY INVESTIGATIONS

- The following investigations will continue to be carried out:
 - Assessment of Zambezi River water quality.
 - Namibia Custom Smelter and Okorusu Mine Seasonal Water Quality Monitoring.
 - Osire Refugee Camp Water Quality Monitoring.
 - Cyanide Water Quality Monitoring at Kombat.

- Assess impact of large irrigation in Grootfontein - Tsumeb - Otavi area and Stampriet, and prevention strategy.
- Assessment of Orange River water quality.
- Omaruru basin water quality.
- Wastewater re-use for irrigation.
- Water quality changes in the Fish River (herbicide, pesticide and heavy metals).

10.4.7 DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Continue monitoring the program for drinking water quality control and compliance in Hardap, Omaheke, Oshana, Ohangwena, Karas and Oshikoto Regions.
- Equip the Water Quality Laboratory for in-house testing.

10.4.8 WATER QUALITY REGULATIONS

- Formulate Reclaimed Water Quality Standards
- Draft Operational Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality Treatment Plants

10.4.9 DEVELOPMENT OF WATER QUALITY DATABASE

- Conduct training on database administration and data capturing with the assistance of students.

10.4.10 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

- Develop new database modules.

10.5 CAPITAL PROJECTS

10.5.1 RESEARCH AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES IN WATER

10.5.1.1 Review and Upgrading of the National Groundwater Monitoring System

10.5.1.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$32,266,000.00)

Analogue recorders have been replaced with digital recorders on monitoring boreholes. In the OMDEL, 110 boreholes were rehabilitated.

10.5.1.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- The replacement of chart type borehole water level recorders with digital type data loggers is a priority. New data loggers are purchased on an annual basis by means of an annual tender.

10.5.1.2 Construction of Low-Flow Gauging Weirs in Lower Orange River

10.5.1.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/13 (N\$8,200,000.00)

- The gauging structures are positioned at Sendelingsdrift in the transboundary Ai Ais/Richtersfiedl Park and at Blouputs at the 20 degree longitude line, where the Orange River starts to be the border between Namibia and South Africa.
- The construction at the first site has been disrupted by floods damaging and breaching the flow diversion embankment, but the foundation and lower notches of the main structure are now being completed.
- Construction of the second structure has commenced.

10.5.1.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- The construction of the gauging structure and the installation and commissioning of measuring equipment at the Sendelingsdrift site will be finalized.
- The plan foresees that the works for the main structure at Blouputs will reach near completion by the end of the year.

10.5.1.3 Construction and Upgrading of Hydrological Gauging Stations

10.5.1.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS 2012/13 (N\$900,000.00)

- The network of automatic measuring, recording and transmission stations was expanded with stations at Okatope (Cuvelai) and Gub and Kuiseb passes (Kuiseb). These stations provide for better early flood warning.

10.5.1.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- Planning and design of new gauging weirs in the Omaruru and Hoarusib rivers.

10.5.1.4 GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATIONS

10.5.1.4.1 Cuvelai-Etosha Groundwater Investigation

The Groundwater Investigation of the Cuvelai-Etosha Basin, co-financed by Germany through the Institute for Geological Sciences and Natural Resources, may have a large impact on socio-economic development if untapped freshwater aquifers can be developed subsequent to a proper understanding of the magnitude and recharge of the available resources.

10.5.1.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$1,000,000.00)

- The drilling of 8 deep exploratory boreholes was completed, along with matching monitoring boreholes at each site.
- Three students were sent for 1-year study courses in hydrogeology at universities in South Africa. Two of the students have completed their studies and a further two are expected to complete during the course of 2013.

10.5.1.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Ten new deep boreholes will be drilled. A tender has been awarded to a drilling company, who is yet to start with the drilling. Drilling of the adjacent monitoring boreholes will be given out to contractors on

annual drilling tender.

10.5.1.4.2 Quantification of Groundwater Resources in Namibia

The purpose of this project is to initiate the Quantification of all the known and previously investigated Groundwater Resources of Namibia in order to deliver information on these resources in support of Integrated Water Resource Management for Development purposes.

10.5.1.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$1 ,200,000.00)

- A consortium is busy with the quantification of groundwater in Namibia. This is an ongoing project and as results become available, the information is consolidated and made available to the Division of Geohydrology.

10.5.1.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The assimilation of information and the preparation of reports will be completed.

10.5.1.4.3 Recharge and Quantification of the Stampriet Artesian Aquifer

10.5.1.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$800,000.00)

- Funding has been secured from UNESCO through SADC to conduct a feasibility study on the available data for the transboundary aquifer.

10.5.1.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The Ministry will conduct a feasibility study on the available data for the transboundary aquifer.

10.5.1.4.4 Artificial Recharge of the Windhoek Aquifer

The project aims is to secure the water supply to the Central Areas of Namibia, through the storage of purified water in the Windhoek Aquifer, in times of abundance. This will then be a storage safeguard in times of

drought and water shortages.

10.5.1.4.4.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$9,580,000.00)

- An amount of N\$5,000,000.00 from the NPC project has been made available to the City of Windhoek for the drilling of at least 12 new injections and monitoring boreholes.

10.5.1.4.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Negotiations for project funding will continue with international financial institutions.
- The new deep boreholes will be drilled in the Windhoek Aquifer to serve as injection points for the recharge and the water transfer infrastructure will be upgraded to make provision for the extra load.

10.5.1.4.5 NATIONAL INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.5.1.4.5.1 Development of National Integrated Water Resource Management Plan

10.5.1.4.5.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- Integrated Water Resource Management Plan was developed and approved by Cabinet.
- Popularisation workshops on the IWRM Plan were carried out countrywide.

10.5.1.4.5.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Implementation of the IWRM Plan will follow.

10.5.1.4.6 WATER RESOURCES STUDIES AT BASIN LEVEL

10.5.1.4.6.1 Development of Water Resources Plans for Basins

10.5.1.4.6.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- The Cuvelai Etosha Basin project developed a profile for the Cuvelai Basin and its four sub-basins.

10.5.1.4.6.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Develop plans for Iishana, Olushandja, Niipele and Tsumeb Sub-basins.
- Develop plans for the Cuvelai and Omaruru basins.

10.5.1.4.6.2 Development of Flood Management Plans

In cooperation with technical experts of the World Bank, a project has been prepared for the determination of flood risk mapping for the flood-risk areas in northern Namibia, viz Cuvelai, Kavango and Caprivi.

10.5.1.4.6.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- A project team, incorporating professionals of Hydrology, NamWater, UNAM and PoN, has been set up. The supporting experts made a mission to Namibia for a two-week training workshop. Flood risk contours have been calculated and validated along the length of the Kavango River.
- Jointly with the Salt Works at Walvis Bay, an aerial lidar survey at the Lower Kuiseb and the Kuiseb Delta wetlands was carried out.

10.5.1.4.6.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- A project team, incorporating professionals of Hydrology, NamWater, UNAM and PoN, will continue with flood risk hazard mapping and modelling of the flood prone areas.

10.5.1.4.6.3 Development of Safety Systems for Dams in Ephemeral Rivers

10.5.1.4.6.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- Implementation of the project awaits promulgation of the *Water Resources Management Act*.

10.5.1.4.6.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2013/2014

- Implementation will commence with promulgation of the Act

10.5.4.7 WATER RESEARCH AND STUDIES

10.5.4.7.1 Natural Resource Accounts for Water

10.5.4.7.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$300,000.00)

- The Walvis Bay Salt Refinery technical report is 30% complete, the report was put on hold due to Environmental Impact Assessment for Green Scheme projects in Kavango and Caprivi.
- More information on electricity and water sample tests costs for Erongo NamWater schemes were received and the water quality data is currently being analyzed.
- The Erongo Desalination Plant technical report was completed.
- Data analysis and report of four local authorities or municipalities (Outjo, Outapi, Otavi and Opuwo) are still underway.

10.5.4.7.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Collection of Natural Resource Accounting information for water project will continue countrywide.
- Reports of NamWater and different Local Authorities will be compiled.

10.5.4.7.2 Feasibility Study of Dam on Lower Orange River

The construction of a re-regulating dam on the Lower Orange River for domestic and livestock, irrigation and the river mouth requirements consumption will be negotiated at PWC and ORASECOM level.

10.5.4.7.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$4,466,000.00)

- Terms of Reference for the feasibility study was finalized and approved.

10.5.4.7.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The full feasibility study as well as the environmental impact assessment of the proposed dam on the Lower Orange River will be undertaken.

10.5.5 WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The exploitation and utilization of the country's water resources is currently managed and regulated under existing water legislation and approved government policy.

10.5.5.1 Amendment and Implementation of Water Resources Management Act and Regulations

10.5.5.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$14,580,000.00)

- The new Water bill will be tabled in Parliament during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- 52 water abstraction permits were issued.

10.5.5.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The issuing of permits for water abstraction, irrigation, the disposal of waste water and the drilling of boreholes in water control areas and the construction of farm dams will continue.

10.5.5.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AT BASIN LEVEL

10.5.5.2.1 Construction of Basin Support Offices

10.5.5.2.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$800,000.00)

- The Cuvelai and Iishana Basin Management Support offices were renovated.

10.5.5.2.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Continue with the renovation of the Basin Management Support offices.

10.5.5.2.2 Establishment of Basin Management Committees

10.5.5.2.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- No Basin Management Committee was established during the year under review.

10.5.5.2.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The National Stakeholders Committee for the Zambezi is being set up which will be the natural starting point for the BMC in that area.

10.5.5.3 MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF WATER SOURCES

10.5.5.3.1 Upgrading and Equipping of Water Quality Laboratory

10.5.5.3.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$4,000,000.00)

A call for Expression of Interest to equip the Water Quality laboratory was advertised and the following services were requested:

- Testing and calibrating existing equipment.
- Provision of additional equipment to enable specified chemical, physical and micro-biological water analyses.

10.5.5.3.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- Acquire the remaining Laboratory operational equipment and start analyzing some samples in-house.

11. MAIN DIVISION 11 : WATER SUPPLY AND

SANITATION COORDINATION

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 161,361,000.00
CAPITAL BUDGET : N\$900,170,000.00

11.1 OBJECTIVE

- To improve the quality of life of rural communities.

11.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Provide access to potable water supply.
- Improve rural sanitation services.
- Coordinate urban and rural sanitation services.

11.3 RECURRENT BUDGET

11.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- Implementation of the 5-year National Sanitation Strategy Plan.
 - Sanitation, Hygiene promotion and awareness on the usage and maintenance of sanitation facilities were carried out in nine regions prior to the provision of sanitation infrastructures.
 - Rural Water Extension Officers and maintenance staff members were trained on the implementation and Sanitation service provision in rural areas.
 - Organized and held National Water Supply and Sanitation Forum (WATSAN) quarterly meetings. Established the WATSAN Forum in Omaheke, Hardap and Karas Region which will focus on regional sanitation specific needs.

11.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Finalization and implementation of the Water Supply Subsidy Policy.

- Training of Water Point and Local Water Committees as well as Caretakers.
- Capacity building for the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination.
- Maintaining existing water supply infrastructure countrywide.
- Implementation of the Sanitation Strategy
 - Establishing Regional WATSAN Forum in nine regions and continue to coordinate and convene National and Regional WATSAN meetings on a quarterly basis.
 - Community Education and Participation in sanitation and hygiene
 - Increase in coverage and use of improved sanitation facilities in both urban and rural areas through baseline survey.
 - Improve hygiene and sanitation practices and waste management
 - Strengthen Institutional capacity.
 - Manage the domestic solid and effluent wastes.

11.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS

11.4.1 RURAL WATER SUPPLY COVERAGE

The project aims at providing clean, piped water to rural communities living in areas where the groundwater quality is not suitable for human consumption. Piped water schemes are playing a major role in contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the reduction of poverty.

11.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$100,025,000.00)

- Construction of the following projects were completed:
 - Katima Mulilo - Ngoma Water Supply Scheme Phase 1.

- Katima Mulilo - Kongola Water Supply Scheme Phase 1
- Eiseb Water Supply Scheme.
- For the water supply project to the Displaced Communities in the Kavango Region the Construction of seven (7) water points were completed.
- Construction of Onambutu Phase 6 Water Supply Scheme has commenced.
- A feasibility Study for the Kavango water transfer to Grootfontein and Ogongo was conducted.

11.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Continuation of the construction of Katima Mulilo - Ngoma Phase 2 Water Supply Scheme.
- Continuation of the construction of Katima Mulilo - Kongola Phase 2 Water Supply Scheme.
- Continuation of the construction of Onambutu Phase 6 Water Supply Scheme.
- Continuation with Phase 3 and 4 of the investigation and selection of water supply provision to the Saltblock area in the Karas and Hardap Regions' project.
- Conduct a feasibility Study for the Iitapa - Okeeholong Water Supply Scheme
- Conduct a feasibility Study for Oshivelo - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme.
- Conduct a feasibility Study for the Ruacana South Water Supply Scheme.

- Conduct a feasibility Study for the King Kauluma – Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme.
- Conduct a feasibility Study for the Omutele 40 km pipeline South Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of seventeen (17) water points and small pipeline for the displaced communities in Kavango Region.

11.4.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT

The overall objective of the project is to strive for all water points in the country to be in a working condition. The project will ensure that water points are upgraded to acceptable working standard so that they could be handed over for management and operation and maintenance to communities. The project is implemented with the full involvement of the communities who are expected to manage, operate and carry out minor maintenance on their water point infrastructure. A number of water points have been rehabilitated and new ones drilled as had been identified by all Regions.

11.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$44,294,000.00)

- 40 Water points were installed.
- 120 Water Points were rehabilitated.
- 30 Extension pipelines were constructed.
- 100 engines were repaired

11.4.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- 240 Water points will be installed throughout the country.
- 120 Water Points will be rehabilitated countrywide.
- 60 Boreholes will be drilled throughout the country.

- 41 Water Points will be cleaned and pump tested throughout the country.
- 70 Extension pipelines will be constructed throughout the country.

11.4.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF DECENTRALISATION, CONSTITUENCY OFFICE CONSTRUCTION

This project enhances the process of decentralizing the rural water supply functions to constituency level and to create a framework for efficient service provision even closer to the rural people. Although the project name covers decentralization, the focus is more on the construction of rural water supply and sanitation area/constituencies offices and staff accommodation.

11.4.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$1,603,000.00)

- The construction of additional area offices in Tses, Karas Region has commenced.

11.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Area offices will be constructed in Erongo, Hardap, Karas and Omaheke Regions.

11.3.4 CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS, TRADITIONAL WELLS AND PANS FOR LIVESTOCK DRINKING

This project aims to build traditional wells, pans and dams for livestock drinking. These new dams and pans infrastructures will ensure that water is impounded during rainy seasons for continuous use during both the rainy and dry seasons.

11.3.4.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$17,000,000.00)

- Consultants to conduct feasibility studies, tendering and contract supervision for the construction of twelve earth dams, one in each Region except Khomas were appointment.

11.3.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- One (1) earth dam will be constructed in each of the twelve (12) Regions based on the new design.

11.3.5 RURAL AND URBAN SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this project is to increase coverage and use of improved sanitation facilities, develop sanitation infrastructure in rural areas and coordinate the implementation of sanitation policy in rural and urban areas.

11.3.5.1 ACHIVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$15,000,000.00)

- A Memorandum of Understanding for government to construct ablution facilities was signed and implemented between the Ministry and Ohangwena and Caprivi Regional Councils. The construction work to put up dry sanitation facilities in rural areas as a pilot has been completed.
 - Sanitation facilities were provided to 482 households in three Constituencies in Ohangwena namely Endola, Epembe and Ohangwena covering nine (9) villages. This project created 158 short term employment opportunities.
 - In Caprivi region construction of the ablution blocks at five combined schools have been completed. The identified schools were Singalamwe, Sikuvi, Linyanti, Masokotwane and Lisikili combined school. Sanitation and hygiene promotion and the use of such facilities sessions were also conducted at all schools.

11.3.5.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Implementation of National Sanitation Strategy
 - Development of sanitation infrastructures.
 - Build capacity for the development and planning of new sanitation infrastructure in rural areas.

11.3.6 NECKARTAL DAM

11.3.6.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$260,000,000.00)

- Three Companies were shortlisted to construct the dam after having met all the pre-qualification requirements.
- Tender for the construction of the dam and Phase 1 Bulk water Supply has been awarded to Messrs Salini S.p.A by the Tender Board of Namibia.

11.3.6.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Construction of the dam and Phase 1 Bulk water Supply

11.3.7 DESALINATED BULK WATER SUPPLY FOR URANIUM MINES AT THE COAST

11.3.7.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/13 (N\$15,000,000.00)

- Bidders have been invited and 3 tenderers participated.
- Evaluation of the tenders is in the process.

11.3.7.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Submission of business case to the Ministry of Finance and approval of the evaluation results.
- Submit the recommendation for award to the Tender Board of Namibia
- Signing of Water Supply Agreements to the Mines and coastal towns.

11.3.8 DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS

11.3.8.1 NAMIBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY

- The Namibia Red Cross Society is implementing a 4-year water supply and sanitation project for the rural communities in Kunene, Kavango and Ohangwena regions to the value of N\$ 4 million.

11.3.8.2 EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- The EU earmarked an amount of €36 million in their Budget support to the Water and Sanitation Sector. This funding is part of the EDF 10 agreement between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the European Union.

11.3.8.3 SPANISH COOPERATION

- The Agreement between the Spanish Government and the Namibian Government is continuing and is now in its second year. The funds are mostly used for the implementation of the Sanitation function.

11.3.9 ASSISTANCE TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

11.3.9.1 ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT

- The maintenance of water supply infrastructure on resettlement farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement however the Division Rural Water Development and Planning is assisting Ministry of Lands and Resettlement with the contract administration of constructing and repairing their water supply infrastructure.

11.3.9.2 ASSISTANCE TO THE NAMIBIA/GERMAN INITIATED PROGRAMME

- The Governments of Namibia and Germany have agreed to implement a Special Initiative with the aim of developing and socially consolidating communities that had "historic ties" with the German Colonial Government.
- The overall objective of the Programme is to address the conditions of abject poverty in the communities identified under the Programme. The Programme areas include Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Khomas, Kunene, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions, in 24 constituencies, identified by the Government of the Republic of Namibia.

12. MAIN DIVISION 12 : FORESTRY

RECURRENT BUDGET : N\$ 77 704 000

CAPITAL BUDGET : N\$ 44 582 000

12.1 OBJECTIVE

- To practice and promote the sustainable and participatory management of forest resources and other woody vegetation, and to enhance socio-economic development and environmental stability.

12.2 MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Develop, maintain and improve forest resources including their contribution to global carbon cycles.
- Maintain and enhance the productive functions of forest and other wooded lands.
- Manage and maintain the protective functions of forest and other wooded lands.
- Conserve and maintain the biological diversity of forests and other wooded lands.
- Maintain and enhance the socio-economic benefits of forests and other wooded lands.
- Strengthen the forestry sector management organizations.
- Utilize undesirable bushes for sustainable land-use management in order to restore the desirable rangeland and wildlife habitats.
- Improve and develop the wood industry.
- Develop and promote tree planting for a sustainable environment and economy.
- Conduct forest research and provide information to responsible decision-making in the forestry sector.

12.3 RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

12.3.1 FOREST POLICY, PLANNING, LEGISLATION AND INFORMATION

The intervention aims to develop or review the Forestry Policy and Legislation, communicate key issues to the public; and spearhead co-ordination in forestry development.

12.3.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$65,330,000.00)

- The Ministry regulated forestry resources through issuing harvesting, transport, export and marketing permits throughout the 2012/2013 Financial Year.
- Law enforcement operations were carried out including patrolling designated forest areas, resource inspection on farms as well as guiding the farmers and members of the public on sustainable use of forest resources.
- The Forest Regulations have been submitted to legal drafters for scrutiny and were referred back to the Ministry for clarification of issues and further inputs.
- Strategic planning for organizational management and operations is being implemented at both headquarters and regional level, and guidelines and other technical support are given to the field-based officials.
- A field manual for the establishment of community forest was developed.
- Information on forestry related issues were disseminated to the public during the annual events such as Arbor Day, World Environment Day, World Food Day, and World Water Day.
- Illegally harvested forest produce were confiscated and auctioned in

Kavango, Kunene, Omusati, Oshikoto, Ohangwena and Oshana regions.

- The forestry Council was inaugurated and operational.

12.3.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Gazette and popularize Forest Act regulations, including list of protected tree species.
- Popularize Forest Act and Policy through on-going media campaigns in local languages.
- Implement and maintain the Forest Information Management Systems such as permits and reporting.
- Finalize the draft Forest and Veld Fire Management Policy.
- Implement the tree planting strategy.
- Develop wood and fruit processing strategies.
- Create awareness on Forestry through various national and local events.

12.3.2 COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT

The intervention aims to create an enabling environment for equitable, community-based forest management and utilization.

12.3.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- Thirteen (13) proclaimed Community forests were supported and their Management Plans were reviewed and adjusted.
- Nineteen (19) communities signed agreements with the ministry to establish community forests. This was gazetted on the 8 March 2013, covering an area of approximately 2.5 million ha. The management responsibility is devolved to the communities to manage and utilise their forests sustainably and accrue economic benefits.
- The communities generated income amounting to N\$695,650.00 from

the sale of forest products, issuing of permits, camping sites, processed honey, curious, poles and droppers sale, sale of guinea fowls, from Okongo (Ohangwena Region); Uukolonkadhi Community Forest (Omusati Region) and from various communities in Kavango and Caprivi Regions.

- Okongo community forest committee entered into a private partnership to harvest and process timber so as to increase income to run the wood carpentry workshop.
- More than 450 community forest management committee members benefitted from training in bee keeping, fire management, bookkeeping; tree planting; guinea fowl farming; participatory community based inventory to enhance their capacity in forest management.

12.3.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Proclaim five community forests
- Conduct five participatory community based inventories and develop management plans.
- Initiate more community-based income-generating activities and support ongoing activities.
- Promote marketing of forest products.
- Train communities in various forestry technical matter to build capacity

12.3.3 FOREST PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

The focus area aims to uphold and implement the principles of protection and conservation of forests and wooded lands for their environmental and socio-economic values.

12.3.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- The precision forestry techniques (GIS/Remote Sensing) have enabled the electronic dispatch of daily fire bulletins, a service that has been welcomed by our stakeholders. This tool further enables staff of the

Directorate to detect and monitor the movement of fires and to act appropriately and effectively.

- Fire equipment and tools including fire beaters, high pressure pumps, fire bombs, drip torches, wind-driven knapsack sprayers and fire signboards to indicate fire-prone areas were acquired.
- Local communities were involved in clearing fire break (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas of Oshikoto, Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshana, Caprivi, Kavango, Omaheke, Otjozondjupa and Kunene Regions, five thousand six hundred and twenty three kilometers (5,623km) of firebreaks were cleared, creating temporary jobs for 2,356 people (414 female and 1,942 men).
- Staff members and community members participated in the suppression of wildfires with support from Regional Councils and the Namibian Defence Force (NDF).
- The beekeeping beneficiaries from Oshana, Ohangwena, Kavango and Caprivi received equipment, protective clothes and tools. They are now able to generate income through selling of honey and other products.
- Communities harvested 200 litres of honey which were sold at annual trade fairs, agriculture shows and to individuals.

12.3.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Create awareness on forest fire management.
- Develop and implement fire management plans.
- Establish and equip regional based fire management units.
- Train communities in fire management.
- Maintain Fire Early Warning Information Systems.
- Declare fire hazard areas in the Government Gazette

- Identification and maintenance of fire breaks/fir cut lines.
- Disseminate fire management information such as billboards, pamphlet.
- Support beekeeping beneficiaries and create market for bee products

12.3.4 TREE PLANTING AND ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT

The intervention aims to promote and implement afforestation and reforestation Programmes.

12.3.4.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- A tree planting training manual was used to train and guide tree planting activities.
- A total of 181,745 seedlings were produced at MAWF nurseries. These seedlings were provided to communities at subsidized prices to encourage tree planting.
- The existing orchards started bearing fruits, and 1,800 Kg of Mangoes and 2,000 Kg of Guavas were harvested.
- Four hundred and twenty five hectares of orchards and woodlots were maintained.

12.3.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Training of Forestry technical staff on nursery management, grafting and budding of tree seedlings.
- Establish grafting and budding facilities.
- Continue with maintaining and managing all existing orchards and woodlots (watering, pruning, and weeding, ploughing & insect control).
- Produce 200,000 seedlings in nurseries for production and research.
- Apply good nursery practices in twelve Regions.

- Provide technical support to farmers for tree planting activities.
- Expand tree planting and orchard development with 100ha.

12.3.5. WOOD INDUSTRY

The intervention aims at creating an enabling environment whereby wood based entrepreneurs can access wood resources for commercial purposes.

12.3.5.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- Wood industry promotion is becoming increasingly important in the drive of the forestry sector in terms of employment creation. The construction of five (5) wood marketing outlets at Keetmanshoop, Helao Nafidi, Ongwediva, oshikuku and at Okahao has been completed. Wood processing machineries have been procured and will be dispatched to the outlets for installation for use in the processing of wood.
- The Ministry facilitated the harvesting of wood for the production of charcoal, poles, droppers, timber, roots, arts and craft and firewood through the issuing of permits.
- A total of 898 hectares have been cleared in government owned farms as well as the resettlement farm for the San community. As a result, 405 jobs have been created, benefiting 352 men and 53 women. Preparations have started for the de-bushing activities to be extended to other landownership such as privately owned lands in the form of subsidizing costs.

12.3.5.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Develop and promote projects for wood product development.
- Support the implementation of the strategic plan on bush utilization incentives and supply information and recommendations to the industry.
- Operationalise the wood marketing facilities/outlets.
- Support and encourage farmers to supply wood products to the marketing facilities/outlets.

- Carry out wood products marketing study.
- Operationalise wood marketing facilities.

12.3.6 FOREST RESEARCH

The intervention aims to develop and implement forest research programmes and provide technical/scientific services to the Forestry Sector.

12.3.6.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013

- A PhD-level research project has been undertaken based on the Forestry Research Strategy that was launched during 2011/2012. A study to investigate the main drivers of deforestation in the Caprivi Region, including socio-economic factors was developed and launched.
- The fire monitoring service from National Remote Sensing Centre was improved by the increased monthly burned area reports and a more comprehensive annual report in addition to these reports. The service continues to provide active fire bulletins on a daily basis.
- The process of participatory mapping and inventory of community forests was enhanced by the development of a rapid inventory method that combines Remote Sensing techniques with field surveys.
- The Flowering Calendar developed early 2012 was implemented in all Forestry regions. The methodology to determine fruit yield for Marula was applied in all Northern Regions.
- All existing field based research trials were successfully monitored and maintained.

12.3.6.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- Continue to expand the GIS/Remote Sensing support to the Forestry Sector.
- Provide support towards the development of fire management plans
- Continue with participatory community forest inventory, and expand

this activity at Regional level by incorporating Remote Sensing techniques.

- Continue to monitor and maintain existing field based research trials.
- Continue with the methodology to determine fruit yield for marula in all Northern Regions.
- Publish results from the long-term mopane (*Colophospermum mopane*) trial.

12.4 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

12.4.1 INTEGRATED FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

12.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$60,000,000.00)

- The Tree Planting Strategy was developed
- A total of 85 ha of new orchards were established and planted with various fruit trees such as citrus, guavas, mangoes at various sites throughout the country.
- A total of 5,623 km of firebreaks were cleared in fire prone areas by local people in which 2,356 temporary jobs were created benefiting 414 female and 1,942 men.
- Walvis Bay Forestry Office and Nkurenkuru staff house were constructed.
- Offices and staff accommodations at Engombe and Onamishu were constructed.
- The Ministry has started with the construction of a wood marketing facility and installation of three-phase electricity at Katima Mulilo.
- The construction and upgrading of Offices at Outjo Forest Station, Keetmanshoop and Ongenga ADC has commenced.
- Construction of tissue culture laboratory at National Forest Research

Centre has commenced.

- Construction of Staff houses/accommodation at Kanovlei Forestry Research Station, liheke yaNakele Forest station, Walvisbay, Onayena, Outjo, Otjinene, Tallismanus and Onankali Forestry Office has commenced.

12.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013/2014

- The Ministry will purchase firefighting equipment and tools.
- The Ministry will purchase wood and beekeeping processing equipment and tools to promote rural industries.
- Construct and equip community forest facilities namely M'akata Community Forest in Otjozondjupa and Katope Community Forest in Kavango Region.
- Develop a marketing strategy for community-based forest products.
- Maintain 5,623 km of existing fire-breaks/cut-lines.
- Establish twenty nine (29) community based forest fire management units in twenty nine (29) fire prone constituencies of Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Kavango, Caprivi, Oshana, Oshikoto, Kunene and Omusati Regions.
- Develop and disseminate fire management information such as pamphlets, leaflets.
- Erect billboards, posters on fire management in fire prone areas.
- Purchase operational equipment for bush clearing and wood processing.
- Construct firewood marketing facilities at Mariental, Outapi and Rundu.
- Upgrade Forestry Offices at Otjinene and Onesi Agriculture Development Centers.

- Construct the Gobabis Forestry Office.
- Upgrade research facilities (e.g. Tree Seed Centre, tissue culture facilities) at the National Forestry Research Centre in Okahandja.
- Clear the encroached areas in different regions.
- Support entrepreneurs in establishing wood processing operations in order to utilize cleared wood for economic gain.
- Acquire machinery to support farmers and entrepreneurs to harvest and process wood.
- Evaluate the Tree Planting Project.
- Commission a study on the marketing and processing of fruits from the orchards to cover the whole country.
- Evaluation and assessment of all the existing DoF nurseries, with the aim to improve the quality and quantity of seedlings.