



MEDIA ADVISORY

- WHAT:** Briefing of Parliamentarians on the new Education Bill
- WHO:** Hon. Prof Peter Katjavivi, Speaker of National Assembly; Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture; Ms. Sanet Steenkamp, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture; Hon. Bernadette Jagger, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social and Community Development; Ms. Micaela Marques de Sousa, UNICEF Country Representative
- WHEN:** Tuesday, 13 September 2016 at 10h00
- WHERE:** Parliament Office, Pink Room
- WHY:** To enable the media to cover the briefing and presentation of the new Education Bill to Members of Parliament of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social and Community Development

The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will brief and present the new Education Bill to the Honourable committee members of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social and Community Development for enactment.

While the Government of the Republic of Namibia has achieved a lot in terms of providing education to its citizens, a need was felt to review Education Act of 2001 (Act No. 16 of 2001), in order to ensure that the new Act reflects all national and international policies and legislations in education, with particular emphasis on ensuring the right to inclusive quality education for all children.

During 2015 the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC), with both financial and technical support from UNICEF and the European Union (EU), embarked on an extensive review of the Education Act, (Act No. 16 of 2001), under the Theme "Act Now!".



To ensure an inclusive participatory review process of the Education Act, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture completed a series of town hall meetings in 28 towns across Namibia, in all 14 regions. The views of the wider Namibian community to improve learning outcomes of all children in Namibia were therefore considered during the review process

The new Education Act will better reflect the aims of Namibia's National Development Plans (NDPs), Vision 2030, as well as Namibia's global, continental and regional commitments, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA16-25). In addition the new Education Act will place the child and the learners at the centre of education and promote an education which is free from any type of discrimination. It will further promote an education that prepares the Namibian child for lifelong learning and sustainable development.

The enactment of the Education Bill into a new Act of Parliament will be another milestone in the history of Namibia's education system.

For more information please contact:

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