Hon. Members,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the presence of Professor Dr. Norbert Lammert, in the Speaker’s corner, in the Gallery of the National Assembly.

Hon. Members,

Prof. Dr. Lammert is the former President of the German Parliament (the Bundestag) and is the current global Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS).

He is currently in Namibia, to officiate over tomorrow’s celebration of the 30 years of KAS’ engagement with Namibia and Angola. We are also using this opportunity, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with KAS, for the management of a specific technical cooperation between the Namibian Parliament and the German Parliament. Indeed, our two countries and parliaments have a close bond.

Over the years, KAS has become a very reliable partner of our Parliament and continues to do so.

Hon. Members,

During his time as the President of the Bundestag, Professor Lammert was one of the first high ranking officials in Germany, to publicly acknowledge and pronounce the fact that the events of 1904-8, involving German atrocities against the people of Namibia amounted to a Genocide. We as a country, hold this understanding, forthright revelation and solidarity in high esteem.

Professor Lammert, you are most warmly welcome to Namibia and indeed, the Namibian Parliament. Hon. Members, you may wish to know that while on this visit, Professor Lammert will also visit the TUCSIN San Project in Tsumkwe and other places. Professor Lammert, we wish you well in your mission and hope you enjoy your stay in Namibia.