



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**PARLIAMENT CONTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION BILL**

BY

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**DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES (MP)**

I raise to add my voice to the Appropriation Bill which is under discussion. Let me commend the Minister of Finance Hon. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and the entire staff of the Ministry and the Director General of the National planning ~~communication~~ <sup>Commission</sup> for the job well done during the preparations of this budget.

Indeed the Government always keeps its promises on its priorities. This year the SWAPO led Government emphasized Education, Health, Agriculture and Housing by allocating Billions of Dollars to these sectors, ensuring that services are improved and infrastructures expanded as it appeared in the SWAPO Party Manifestos. Let me commend the Mass Housing Project. For the Government to come up with this 8,1 Billion allocated to the Housing Project is a praiseworthy decision. Those companies awarded tenders to build those needed houses and the decision of building houses for low and middle income is commendable, since every family deserves shelter as stipulated in our Constitution - this is what Government wants to achieve. My hope is that those awarded tenders to work hard and to implement this project as planned.

Furthermore, these Billions should also benefit women and youth. I believe that at one point the Minister of Local Government Housing and Rural Development should inform us how many women benefited from this Mass Housing Project. I sincerely hope that some of these funds will be channelled to build save homes for the Victims of Gender Based Violence as it happens that some women don't know where to go for assistance when they are caught in a violent or abusive relationship. Such save homes could further strengthen the programme of women economic empowerment through training and empowerment projects. Furthermore, the 250-00 the vulnerable children receive should be spent on these kids. We still find children who cannot afford to purchase school uniforms because money is spend on other people. Furthermore, the Ministry should educate both men and women on the issue of Gender-Based Violence and how to fight these evils within society.

Coming to Health Sector getting 6+ Billions we commend the funds channelled to the health sector. These funds will assist in training health practitioners, to improve and construct hospitals and clinics, buy equipment and recruit doctors, nurses and other categories of health professionals needed as per new organisational structure of the Ministry as the old staff establishment does not correlate to the demand of service delivery. The critical shortage of health personnel needs to be addressed. The same billions will be used to fight communicable and non-communicable disease and fight disease outbreaks. Thank you Cde Minister.

The angry human resources reduce the productivity. The implementation of push allowance of nurses needs to be speed up as teachers are already benefiting. Again, I call upon the appeal of this, as I travel and visit the regions saw the frustration of those supervisors in their effort to exercise their duties while facing disadvantages. Some categories in the Public Services as Nurses are lumped together - those who are maintained a Ward Unit, or a district even at regional level where you supervise the whole region, they are all lumped to get the same salary. In my opinion this situation will lead to demoralization, and even you don't know who supervised who?? Let it be reviewed and rectified as this will hampered the Patient Care. I was well informed that the appeal is submitted to the office of the PM. I hope and trust that it will enjoy the attention it deserves.

With these few words I support the Appropriation Bill.

