

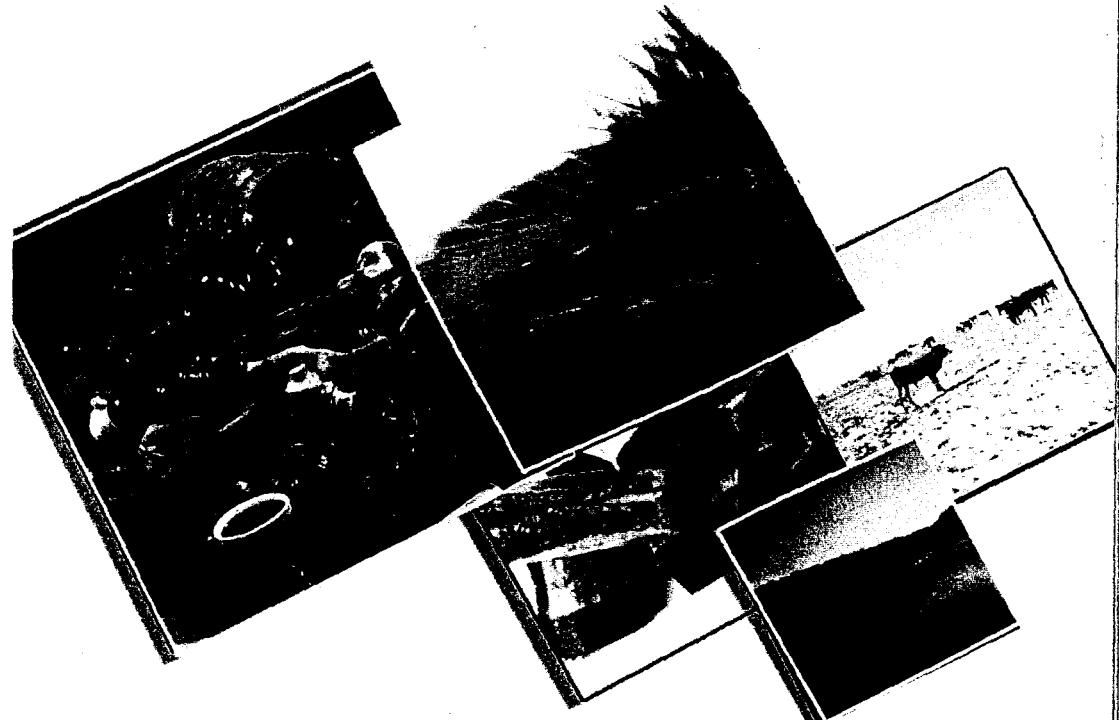


REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER & FORESTRY
BUDGET MOTIVATION STATEMENT
BY**

HONOURABLE JOHN MUTORWA, MP
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

VOTE 20



THEME:

*"CHANGE WITH CONTINUITY, CO-ORDINATION, CONSOLIDATION AND
COMPLETION OF MAJOR MAWF PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS*

31 March 2016

A. NEW PROGRAMMES AND ALLOCATION FOR 2016/2017 FINANCIAL YEAR

In line with the Ministerial Medium Term Plan, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry is implementing four Programmes, namely:

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

Guided by these four programmes, I would like to introduce and motivate the budget allocations for the 2016/17 financial year. 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 year.

I am motivating a total budget of N\$ 2 301 487 000 for the financial year 2016/17 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. This represents a 4.7 % reduction from last year's allocation. Of this total, N\$ 1 112 185 000 or 48.3% is for the Operational Budget, while the remaining N\$ 1 189 302 000 or 51.7% is allocated to the Development Budget.

Overall, N\$ 599 855 480 or 26.1% is devoted to the development of the water sector and to supply water to rural communities in communal areas; N\$ 1 068 493 520 or 46.4% is for the development of the agriculture sector, while N\$ 222 637 000 or 9.7% is for the development of the forestry sector and N\$ 410 501 000 or 17.8 % has been allocated to the supervision and support services.

Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members,

I shall now elaborate programme by programme:

1. AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME

Agriculture is critical for both economic development and also in meeting the country's regional and global commitments, which include, among others, the UN's Sustainable Development Goal on the eradication of poverty and hunger and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) with its four Pillars, namely: Pillar 1: Extending the area under sustainable management and reliable water control systems; Pillar 2: Improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access; Pillar 3: Increasing food supply and reducing hunger and Pillar 4: Agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption. 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 sector to achieve the desired outcomes set in the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4), an amount of N\$ 1 068 493 520 is allocated for this programme to carry out some of the following activities:

- 1.1.** The Ministry shall monitor and supervise the construction of Uvungu-Vungu Dairy Project, Ndonga Linena Phase 2, Musesi, Mashare, Etunda, Kalimbeza, Zone, Katima Farm, and ORIP Green Scheme Projects. The Ministry will also continue to upgrade irrigation infrastructures at the said Green Scheme Projects.
- 1.2.** The Ministry shall construct the Rundu and Ongwediva Fresh Produce Hubs Phase II and Windhoek Fresh Produce Hub (Phase I), and the completion of the Ongwediva Technology Centre.
- 1.3.** The Ministry shall procure machineries and equipment for the Green Scheme Projects, as the allocated funds may permit.

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- 1.4. The Ministry shall continue to identify suitable land, for irrigation in the country, for the further development and expansion of the GRN's Green Scheme Programme.
- 1.5. The Ministry will continue with the bulk earthwork for the Fresh Produce Marketing Hub in Windhoek as well as facilitate the planning, designing and tendering of the infrastructure at the Hub.
- 1.6. The Ministry shall continue with the implementation and monitoring of the Rain Fed Crop Production Programme or RFCPP (including the new components of "Conservation Agriculture" and "Draft Animal Power" that were added to the RFCPP in all crop growing regions. Procure additional tractors and implements to ensure effective and efficient service provision to farmers in crop growing areas.
- 1.7. The Ministry shall continue to build capacity in various areas relevant to agricultural sector.
- 1.8. The Ministry shall continue to disseminate information and provide advice to emerging, resettlement, and Affirmative Action Loan Scheme farmers.
- 1.9. The Ministry shall strengthen border control inspection capacity to ensure that all agricultural products entering and leaving the country are in conformity with the acceptable standards and are recorded.
- 1.10. The Ministry shall 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.
- 1.11. The Ministry shall continue to ensure that all farm feeds, entering the country, are accompanied by veterinary import permits and official health certificates, which can verify that feeds are free from all prohibited substances, that in turn can harm our meat industry.
- 1.12. The Ministry will facilitate the process of setting up trade protocols concerning export of livestock and genetic material.

- 1.13. Ministry shall continue to encourage the establishment of community gardens in order to improve household food security.
- 1.14. The Ministry will construct New Agricultural Development Centres (ADCs) at Onamutayi in Oshana Region and Tubuses in Erongo Region.
- 1.15. The Ministry will also continue to implement fruit fly surveillance programme, in collaboration with the FAO, through its technical cooperation programme.
- 1.16. The Ministry shall establish the Plant Health and Bio security Laboratory in 2016/17, funds permitting.

**Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members,**

- 1.17. An abattoir, cold storage and a cooking facility, will be set up in the Zambezi Region. These facilities are aimed at improving value addition and to take advantage of OIE's FMD chapter on commodity-based trade, to ensure continuous marketing of meat and meat products from an FMD high risk area, such canned beef, cooked meat, biltong and other heat treated meat products.
- 1.18. The Ministry will continue to implement the Strategy for achieving international recognition for FMD and Lung sickness freedom status, in the NCAs. The implementation of this strategy is aimed at creating conditions which will allow farmers in the NCAs to access local, regional and international markets for their animals and animal products.
- 1.19. The essential elements of this plan and strategy involve: strengthening of veterinary services, by bolstering staff capacity, in terms of recruitment and skills development, development of surveillance and response guidelines, construction of veterinary infrastructures (offices, laboratories, accommodation), procurement of equipment and vehicles, community mobilization and participation in veterinary activities. International collaboration in the management of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases, will also be strengthened. A major long term component of the

plan entails, the eventual erection of a border fence, between Namibia and Angola and the relocation of livestock, relying on grazing in Angola, to identified grazing areas within Namibia.

- 1.20. The Livestock Identification and Traceability System will continue in the NCA's and the entire population of cattle above 6 months of age are expected to be ear-tagged during this financial year.
- 1.21. Construction of offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation at Oronditi, Swartbooisdrift, Wenela, Kasamane, Mahenene, Dobe and Katwitwi borders, which started in 2015/16 will be completed during the 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.22. The construction of offices and accommodation facilities at Veterinary control gates like: Tsintsabis, Oshivelo, Rooidag and Werda, will also continue in 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.23. Construction of Traceability Office, Chief Veterinarian's Office for Central Regions in Windhoek, Veterinary Clinic at Ondangwa and the construction of offices and accommodation at Tses in the //Kharas Region will commence in earnest, during the 2016/2017 Financial Year.
- 1.24. The electrification of part of the high-risk area of the VCF and the Namibia-Botswana international border fence, which commenced in 2013, is targeted to be completed later this Financial Year.
- 1.25. Construction of Okahao State Veterinarian's Office and Veterinary Clinics at Okalongo, Ruacana, Omundaungilo, Omauni, including Ondangwa (State Veterinarian office and laboratory) will have to start during the 2016/17 Financial Year.

**Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members**

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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\$ 599 855 480 has been availed for the 2016/2017 Financial Year:

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- 1.26. In the Government's quest to ensure water security at national level, a number of new water supply pipeline projects have been initiated and are being developed. Feasibility studies for the following projects are continuing in the 2016/17 financial year; the Omukandu – Oshituntu Water Supply Scheme, Okankolo - Onkumbula Water Supply Scheme, the Khorixas borehole Water Supply Scheme, Eenhana – Oshikunde Water Supply Scheme, Otjombinde Water Supply Scheme, Daures Water Supply Scheme and a viability study of the Etaka canal. The feasibility study will be followed by planning and design reports, after which the construction of these water supply infrastructures will commence.

- 1.27. The construction of Ruacana South Water Supply Project in Omusati Region, King Kauluma - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme in Oshikoto region and the Reservoir (Katima Mulilo/Ngoma Water Supply Scheme Phase1) in Zambezi Region will commence.
- 1.28. The construction of Katima Mulilo – Kongola Water Supply Scheme (Phase 2), in the Zambezi Region, will also continue in 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.29. Construction of the three main sections, i.e.: the Main dam, the Quarry and Abstraction Works and Pipeline of the Neckartal Dam Project will continue. Additional activities in the Main dam, including the Diversion culvert, an additional crusher at the Quarry, the installation of cranes will be constructed, completed and tested during the 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.30. With regard to the abstraction works, the construction of the sediment trap and pump station will be completed and there will be a continuation of excavations and construction of the flood protection berm.
- 1.31. On the Bulk Feeder Pipeline the following activities will continue; pipe laying, jointing, wrapping and lining of joints, pipeline backfilling, the installation of the chambers (air-valve, scour-valve and isolating valves) and the installation of the two (2) surge tanks. This will be followed by excavation and construction of the Balancing dam at the end of the pipeline.
- 1.32. The Ministry, after the final approval by the Cabinet, will also finalise the process of procuring the Erongo Desalination Plant from Areva.
- 1.33. With regard to sanitation coordination, the Ministry will continue to create health awareness, through community education and participation, in sanitation and hygiene practices. This will lead to an increase in coverage and use of improved sanitation facilities in both urban and rural areas of the country.
- 1.34. 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.

- 1.35. Government continues to engage with the neighbouring countries in bilateral, multilateral, regional and international co-operation in the sharing of water from international border Rivers, through the various River basin commissions of the Okavango/Cubango, Zambezi, Cuvelai, Kunene and Orange Rivers. Government will also continue to engage on issues of common interest at regional and continental level, to deliberate on issues pertaining to the management and reasonable utilisation of water resources, at SADC and AMCOW level.
- 1.36. Other negotiations are also ongoing with regard to the viability of developing a hydropower plant, on the Kunene River along the common border with Angola, at one of the sites identified. The Kunene Transboundary Water project rehabilitation of Calueque dam and associated infrastructure is being carried out with the aim of supplying the north central areas of Namibia with water.
- 1.37. Following the approval of Terms of Reference (ToR) last year, the full feasibility study of the Noordoewer/Vioolsdrift dam at the Lower Orange River shall be undertaken during the 2016/17 financial year and thereafter, construction of the dam may commence.
- 1.38. With regard to the issue of supplying Water to the Central Areas of Namibia (CAN), I refer the Honourable Members to the hereto attached Media Statement that I delivered on 14 March 2016.

Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members

2. FORESTRY PROGRAMME

The purpose of this programme is to develop and manage the forestry resources; to enhance socio-economic development and environmental sustainability, in order to ensure that forestry activities are undertaken in different areas throughout the country. In order to execute this programme, the Ministry requests an amount of N\$ 222 637 000 for the financial year 2016/17.

- 2.1. The Ministry will continue with the implementation of de-bushing programme 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 and facilitate the process of adding value to the bush removed, in order to create the much-needed jobs to our citizens.
- 2.2. Furthermore, with the support of de-bushing project funded by GIZ, the Ministry is at an advanced stage to develop a National strategy for optimization of rangeland management and encroacher bush utilization, for socio- economic benefit. This National Strategy will include all land owners/occupiers and enable them to engage in de-bushing activities.
- 2.3. The tissue culture laboratory constructed by the Ministry needs to be equipped and selected staff members at the National Forestry Research Centre in Okahandja, need to be trained on Tissue Culture techniques. This facility will then be fully utilised to produce quality indigenous trees, especially fruit trees, in large quantities over a relatively short period of time.
- 2.4. The Ministry will continue to maintain all field based research trials, to ensure that crucial information is collected, to assist with the management of forest resources. Daily Fire bulletins and monthly fire maps will be produced. The Ministry is prepared to provide training on forest inventory techniques, GIS and Remote Sensing, where needed. All

activities at the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) such as the botanical garden, herbarium, National Plant Genetic Resources Centre (NPGRC), Economic Botany and threatened plants, will be implemented and curated.

- 2.5. The Ministry will also continue to implement the Forest Protection and Conservation programme, through which fire equipment and tools including fire beaters, high-pressure pumps, firebombs, drip torches, wind-driven knapsack sprayers and fire signboards, to indicate fire-prone areas, will be acquired. This equipment will be distributed at Constituency level, in fire prone areas, where local people will have easy access to those items. The local communities will be trained on how to use the firefighting equipment and the ministry will continue to engage local people in clearing fire breaks (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas.
- 2.6. Furthermore, the forest fire awareness campaign will continue, to make the people aware of fire management and clearing of fire cut-lines, extension messages will be developed in local languages and broadcasted through Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) Radio, during fire season. The messages in local languages will help the people to understand the message clearly. The Ministry will also continue to support farmers, who want to farm with bees, so as to diversify income-generating activities.
- 2.7. Tree planting and orchards development will continue. The Ministry plans to produce 170 000 seedlings at ministerial nurseries which will be used to plant 50 ha of orchards.
- 2.8. The Ministry will continue to support community on sustainable management and utilisation of forest resources, through community forestry concept in the Regions of: Otozondjupa, Omaheke, Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Kavango East, Kavango West and Zambezi supported by CFN II and NAFOLA project. Thirteen (13) Community Forestry Centres and curia shops will be built and be equipped with necessary equipment and tools during the 2016/17 financial year, by the Ministry's Directorate of Forestry (DoF).
- 2.9. The DoF will also continue to provide office space and accommodation at various locations for staff, to be able to deliver services to the public. Staff accommodations and offices for new established offices as per new

structure are: Epembe, Aranos, Kongola, Karibib and Omaruru. The DoF will finalise infrastructures that are not completed during 2015/2016 at: Onankali, Mukwe, Ndiyona, Mpungu, Khorixas, Karasburg, Okangwati, Epukiro, Ben-Hur, Aminius, Hamoyi and phase II of the extension of NBRI building.

Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members,

3. 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-operatives Act; and the promotion of marketing of agricultural products. It also provides administrative support to the programmes and ensures proper financial management, optimal deployment of resources, acquisition and development of physical infrastructures, Information Communication Technology services, transport and communication, consumables, employee safety and wellness, utilities, legal costs, assets management and protection, public relations, publications, capacity building and staff development. Furthermore, the programme caters for emergency relief assistance in the Agricultural sector. In order to implement this activities, an amount of N\$ 410 501 000 could only be availed:

- 3.1.** The Ministry will continue to provide support to cooperatives in the country. The Ministry will also continue with the provision of business development services for the development of co-operatives. These services are done in the form of annual monitoring visits to co-operatives and training through the Co-operative College.
- 3.2.** 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 and 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).

- 3.3. The Ministry will continue with the construction of the Regional Head Quarters in Ohangwena and Zambezi Regions which are currently at advanced stage of completion. Furthermore, groundwork has already commenced towards the construction of additional office space at the Ministry's Head Office, Government Office Park, here in Windhoek.

**Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members,**

4. GRN Drought Relief Measures

- 4.1. Allow me to inform this August House that: the country remains threatened by drought conditions, as a result of a poor rainfall performance, experienced during the 2015/16 rainfall season. Our country noted a considerable delay at the onset of the 2015/16 rainfall season. All fourteen Regions reported a poor rainfall performance. Since the beginning of the rain season, most areas were characterised by below normal rainfall, with only a few patches having received above normal showers! Prospect for agricultural production, is negatively impacted in terms of crop harvest, grazing establishments in some areas, as well as water for human and livestock consumption. With just less than a month to the end of the rain season, outlook of the rainfall performance appears worrisome. The dams supplying water to the Central Areas of Namibia (CAN) remain disturbingly and unacceptably, very low.
- 4.2. It is our expectation that the drought situation will prevail again, during the current season. It is also our conviction that, the Ministry together with the Office of the Prime Minister and other stakeholders, will have to continue to implement the existing drought mitigating measures, as well as develop new measures, to deal with the consequences and effects of the drought, in some specific areas of our Country.

5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

**Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Members,**

- (a) Last but not least, may I finally inform this Honourable House that: what I have presented is an abstract of achievements for 2015/16 and the plans for the 2016/17 financial year. I therefore advise the Honourable members to refer to the Technical Paper for detailed and comprehensive information on the Ministry's programmes, projects and activities.
- (b) Additionally and as usual, Honourable members should also read the important documents, presented by the Honourable Minister of Finance, as they also provide sufficient factual information, regarding the various programmes and the allocated funding thereof.
- (c) The Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4) and the new Harambee Prosperity Plan, initiated by His Excellency, President Hage G. Geingob, call for a collective united approach, where both private and public sectors, are expected to work in harmony and implement programmes and projects, that are geared towards achieving the stated national objectives. As, we are entering the final year of the implementation of NDP4, it is very crucially important that we work tirelessly and ensure that the targets that we set for ourselves, are attained. I would like to thank the Agriculture, Water and Forestry stakeholders for their continuous support and dedication, which are evidenced, through their active participation in the sectoral execution plan. I would also like to thank the local and international co-operating partners, the private sector, including Non-Governmental Organisations, 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. 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.

With this motivation, I now call upon this Honourable House to discuss, consider and finally approve the allocations to and for **Vote 20**, for the 2016/17 financial year, in the total amount of: NS 2 301 487 000.

I thank you.