

**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**



**BUDGET SPEECH BY  
HONOURABLE MS. JULIET KAVETUNA, MP  
DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL  
SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY,  
VOTE 27**

09 APRIL 2013

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,  
Honourable Members,

I feel honoured to stand before you, on behalf my Minister, to motivate the budget requirements of the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture, Vote 27, for the Financial Year 2013 to 2014.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

I would like to thank the Hon. Minister of Finance, the Director General of the National Planning Commission, and through them the staff of these institutions for availing a worthwhile national budget. It is indeed gratifying that the Honourable Minister of Finance tabled a budget which places greater emphasis on poverty redress, job creation, tax reduction, amongst others. I wholeheartedly agree with the Minister of Finance that job creation, poverty reduction and improved income equality can only be realized through sustainable economic growth.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

The prevalence of both unemployment and poverty is of specific importance to the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and

Culture as Namibia is by and large a young nation. In Namibia, the youth make up the majority of the population, therefore they will be the most affected by both unemployment and poverty, and especially the rural youth will be the hardest hit.

The Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture is mandated to empower and develop the youth, promote sport, arts and culture. This Ministry has an additional mandate of developing an active lifestyle amongst the population whilst fostering and nurturing an appreciation for arts and culture.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

Towards achieving its mandate the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture has adopted a new Strategic Plan whose implementation has commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. The Ministry's new vision is: "Building a Namibian Identity through a Creative, Proud and Active People". Through a step by step process the Strategic Plan will be implemented, monitored and evaluated on a regular basis. The Ministry is going to face the future with not only confidence and optimism but will harness the creative energy of all its stakeholders to achieve slated key objectives and deliverables. The Ministry has articulated the following key customer value propositions to guide both the formulation and implementation of its service delivery agenda;



- Empower the Youth;
- Promote a Sporting Lifestyle; and
- Promote Arts and Heritage

With the view to prepare the youth for a meaningful adult life, the Ministry is going to embark upon initiatives to improve the following key service delivery outcomes; enable community and industry partnerships, create facilities needed to develop and enhance entrepreneurial skills as well as relevant trade skills.

The Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture embraces the fact that a strong national identity can also be forged through outstanding achievements in the sport arena. Frankie Fredericks, Harry Simon, Paulus Moses, Johanna Benson and Paulus Ambunda, swelled our national pride when all achieved outstanding performances in their respective sport codes. Sport has always played an important role in national reconciliation as achievements like of the athletes mentioned above and those of the Brave Warriors qualifying for the African Nations Cup and the Welwitchia qualifying for the Rugby World Cup swelled national pride and brought Namibians closer. Sport also has contributed significantly to employment creation. Many talented Namibians are making a living out of sport and it must be acknowledge so-that many of our talented Namibians can at an early age be identified and assisted to be successful in this lucrative career path.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

The Ministry has adopted a Strategic Plan which places great emphasis on turning Namibians into active people simply because the Ministry wishes to nurture a culture of activeness amongst Namibians.

The Ministry is aware of the importance of an active lifestyle on health and would want many of our people to walk, run and play more as to lessen the impact on our health services. Towards ensuring mass participation and promoting a sporting lifestyle the Ministry has set itself the target of creating new sporting facilities and renewing old ones countrywide with emphasis on regional capitals and neglected rural areas. Through this and in collaboration with our various international partners, we aim to improve and achieve sporting excellence in selected sport areas. To this end, the Ministry will in partnership with the Namibia Sport Commission and relevant sport codes appoint two hundred and twenty eight **(228) sport development officers** in selected schools countrywide on a part-time basis. These sport development officers will serve as coaches in twenty **(20) different sport codes** and will be part of the country-wide initiative to identify and develop talent in sport at an early stage.

Additionally, **fifteen (15) development managers** will be appointed to oversee sport development in the regions on a part-time basis.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

Namibia is a beautiful country where many of the world wonders can be found. The Namib Desert is the world oldest desert and at Sossusvlei the world tallest and magnificent sand dunes can be found. The Welwitschia Mirabilis plant is a national treasure and can only be found in Namibia. In rock art, Namibia boasts amongst the world's oldest rocks in the form of Apollo II, which is a painted tablet occurring in the Huns Mountains of southwestern Namibia.

Twyfelfontein is an approved World Heritage Site and is another national treasure and contains around 2,000 rock paintings and carvings. The site is one of the largest and host to most important concentrations of rock art in Africa. As many as 40 000 people a year now visit this site, making it one of the more popular tourist destinations in Namibia. Namibia has submitted a request for the Namibia- Sand -Sea to be considered as a World Heritage Site this year. The nomination dossier submitted by Namibia on this matter, has been accepted and would be adjudicated upon by the World Heritage Committee, in Cambodia this year. It is of national importance that sites as those mentioned are preserved and



promoted for the benefit of our current and future generations as well as that of our international visitors.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

Namibia has a rich tapestry of cultural diversity woven from the many diverse heritages found on our shores. Towards ensuring greater heritage appreciation and conservation, the Ministry has identified the need to engage schools as well as a need to establish community partnerships, as an important cornerstone to promote heritage and foster unity in diversity. By creating cultural villages and developing and maintaining heritage sites the Ministry is aiming to create attractive facilities where our people can come together to appreciate arts and various cultural performances. These sites can simultaneously serve as avenues to showcase our natural and cultural heritage through which our people can generate much needed income. The Ministry will embark upon a vigorous public education campaign aiming to create greater understanding of the importance of the Namibian cultural heritage by hosting regional and national cultural festivals.

Not only is Namibia rich in cultural diversity, but is also rich in extensive valuable resources used by scientists to conduct research on issues of vital importance. Namibia offers great opportunity to

scientists who want to study complex issues such as desertification, ethnography, entomology, herpetology, arachnology, archeology, geology, ethology and many more.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

The Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture seeks to empower all Namibians to build, promote, and develop their unique identity through the arts. The Ministry aims to build an enabling environment for the identification and development of creative talents of all Namibians for the betterment of self, community and nation and to encourage the development of a sustainable arts industry. Through skills development, creation of arts spaces, entrepreneurial training, talent management and international partnerships, the Ministry intends to promote arts and create a sustainable and dynamic arts industry.

To this end, the Ministry has launched an initiative to identify forty (40) schools both, primary and secondary; to teach and develop artistic talent of our youth at an early stage as this human endeavour has been so-far neglected. These schools will be strategically located countrywide and in the long run, the Ministry intends to cooperate with the Ministry of Education and other stakeholders to re-



introduce art as an examinable subject in all our schools to nurture the talent of our learners.

In light of the above-mentioned, Honourable Members, the Ministry of Youth National Service, Sport and Culture sought an amount of **SIX HUNDRED and EIGHTY ONE MILLION, SIX HUNDRED and FORTY-ONE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$681 641 000)** for the Financial year 2013/2014.

I THANK YOU