

# HON. MUNDIA AGNES LIMBO, MP'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL BUDGET 2014/2015 SPEECH IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

5<sup>th</sup> March 2014

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Honorable Speaker,

Honorable Members,

I rise to contribute to the appropriation Bill on the floor of Parliament.

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to thank the Minister of Finance, Hon. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, MP, and her team for tabling an elaborative 2014/2015 National Budget.

My contribution dwells on mainly, three topics, namely: land, housing, and job creation.

## 1. Land

Honorable Speaker,

Honorable Members,

On the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990, every Namibian, young and old, celebrated their new found freedom. A new national anthem was sung, and for the first time, Namibia proudly hoisted its National Flag while the apartheid flag was lowered, with all that it stood for.

Hope was restored to many Namibians, as at last their prayers had been answered with the end of colonization. On that day many Namibians believed that they could finally have access to land, private housing and good schools for their children. Both young and old began seeing the possibility of better jobs being available to them as apartheid drew to an end.

However, as the years have passed, the hopes of many Namibians have begun to fade. Why did Namibia go to war? When will we receive our share of land? These are some of the critical questions Namibians have started asking themselves upon seeing that the prices of land and housing have continued to escalate, making these resources only available to the few elite, and various foreign nationals.

The current government came up with the idea of land resettlement, an idea that was wonderful on paper, but failed to reach its full potential when implemented. Land was bought by government, but instead of giving it to the less fortunate, land was given to those individuals that are deemed well connected. Failure to adequately deal with the issue of land could result in an uprising by the Namibian people. Categories should be made with regards to those who have communal land and those who have lost their land entirely, and distributions made on these lines. It is worrisome that the City of Windhoek Municipality is willing to give national leaders, who can afford housing, gross discounts on land.

