



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

Tel: +264 61 284 6111

Fax: +264 61 272 487

Enquiries:

Our Ref.:

Private Bag 13281

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA

Your Ref.:

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BUDGET SPEECH 2019/2020 BY THE MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY, HONOURABLE CHARLES DNP NAMOLOH, MP: VOTE 06 – OF THE MINISTRY OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members,

I stand here today to present Vote 06 of the Ministry of Safety and Security.

Allow me to thank the Honourable Minister of Finance, Comrade Calle Schlettwein and his team for preparing and presenting the national budget for the Financial Year 2019/2020 under this difficult time.

Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members,

In order to effectively execute the Ministry's mandate, its budget programmes are aligned to the country's long and medium term development goals which are; Vision 2030, NDP 5, Harambee Prosperity Plan and the Ruling Party SWAPO Manifesto, with a view to ensuring an environment conducive to

economic development, internal security, safe custody of offenders and peaceful coexistence for all the country's inhabitants.

**Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,**

Allow me now to spell out in detail the composition of the programmes which will be the core activities during the Financial Year 2019/2020.

1. Combating of crime Programme

The main purpose of this programme is to combat crime in the country for a safe environment, conducive for economic and social development.

Furthermore, this programme will enhance cooperation with other stakeholders in the fight against crime, that include government institutions, non-governmental and civic organisations, business entities, regional and international organisations, as well as neighbouring and other countries of the world. On the same score, the programme also facilitates and enhances our commitment to international, continental, regional and bilateral policing obligations, through the International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO-INTERPOL), African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL), the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) and the Joint Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security with our neighbouring countries.

It is under this programme that crime prevention operations are carried out, intelligence on criminal activities is collected to detect crime and carry out investigations, and at the same time, ensure that accused persons and witnesses are brought to courts for justice to take its course.

An amount of **three billion, seven hundred and fifty-three million, two hundred and fifty five thousand Namibian Dollars is allocated for this programme (NS3, 753, 255, 000).**

Out of the above mentioned figures, an amount of four hundred and eighty-five million, five hundred and seventy-four thousand Namibia Dollar (N\$485,574,000) is set aside for Capital Development.

2. Training and Development Programme

This programme aims at maintaining an innovative, learning organization that promotes and disseminates good practices through training and development of staff as well as the implementation of good training standards.

An amount of **eighty-four million, seven hundred and ninety-four thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$ 84,794,000)** is allocated to this programme.

3. VIPs Protection Programme

The main purpose of this programme is to render protection to national and visiting of Very Important Persons (VIPs) and, at the same time, provide security at places of their interests, including security provided at diplomatic missions in Namibia, at their offices and residences.

An amount of **five hundred and twenty-nine million, five hundred and nine thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$529,509,000)** is allocated to this programme.

I should indicate here that out of the amount mentioned above, one hundred million Namibian Dollars (N\$100,000,000) is for recruitment of seven hundred and ten (710) new members of the Force.

4. Information and Communication Technology

The central aim of this programme is to maintain and enhance all ICT systems within the Ministry and it includes the integration of security system at some of the correctional facilities to ensure that escapes and other untoward incidents are curtailed. The programme also encompasses the enhancement of the electronic Offender Management System (OMS). The Offender Management System is an online integrated application to manage the offender administrative and operational activities, while facilitating monitoring, forecasting and decision making process as well as providing effective and reliable authentication mechanism for identifying offenders to minimize any impersonations.

An amount of **sixty-four million and fourteen thousand Namibia Dollar (N\$64,014,000)** is allocated to this programme.

5. Forensic Services Programme

This programme provides documentation, examination, analytical chemistry, explosive chemistry, genetic and blood analysis to solve crime-related problems.

An amount of **twenty-five million, three hundred and twenty-eight thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$25,328,000)** has been allocated to this programme during this financial year 2019/2020.

6. Safe Custody Programme

This programme sets out the framework for delivering safer custody procedures and practices to ensure that correctional facilities are safe places for all those who live, work and visit there mainly through the implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules. This comprises of identifying, managing and supporting offenders who are at risk of harm, preventing incidents of deaths, violence in custody as well as investigating incidents in order to promote learning to prevent future occurrences.

An amount of **eight hundred and one million, two hundred and twenty-five thousand Namibian dollars (N\$801,225,000)** is required for this programme.

7. Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programme

The programme have come to be embraced as a vital component of a comprehensive and holistic crime-fighting strategy. Upon release from incarceration, ex-offenders are faced with a myriad of challenges that weaken the possibility of reform and predispose ex-offenders to recidivism. This programme therefore entails all services offered to support offenders in the pre- and post-release phase to ensure that they become law-abiding citizens.

Ten million, eight hundred and thirty four thousand Namibian dollars (N\$10,834,000) is required for this programme.

8. Coordination and Support Services Programme

This programme encompasses all administrative and coordinative services to support the Ministry.

Two hundred and eight one million, nine hundred and eight two thousand Namibian dollars (N\$281,982,000) is required for this programme.

**Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;
Honourable Members,**

Permit me to give a brief account of crime prevalence in the country, as well as efforts and plans in place to combat it. Though we have been privileged to enjoy peace and stability, the commission of crimes such as murder, robbery, domestic violence, drug trafficking, smuggling of contrabands and other transnational crimes, rape, theft, fraud and cybercrime just to mention a few, still remains a serious concern. However, as reported last year, the concept

document on National Integrated Crime Combating Strategy (NICCS) is finalised and the consultations with identified stakeholders are ongoing.

Sixteen (16) national simultaneous crime prevention operations have been successfully carried out with members deployed on a rotational basis to carry out anti-poaching operations in Etosha and Bwabwata National Parks and Palmwag Conservancy. However, such operations were met with various challenges, such as a lack of sufficient manpower and funding.

During FY 2018/2019, one hundred thousand, three hundred and fifty-six (100,356) criminal cases were reported, for which thirty-seven thousand, five hundred and twenty-six (37,526) suspects were arrested. A total of thirty-seven thousand, two hundred (37,200) cases were finalized, representing a 36% clearance rate, contrary to the 45% targeted clearance rate. The low clearance rate is largely attributed to shortage of investigators, funds for daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and training.

Furthermore, I would like to highlight that during the same financial year, various intelligence-led operations resulted in the seizure of illicit drugs, such as cocaine, mandrax, and cannabis, with a combined value of four hundred and fifty-four million Namibia Dollars (N\$454m). Additionally, 443 suspects were arrested for wildlife crimes during the same period and the following wildlife products were confiscated: 152 elephant tusks, 93 pangolins and 8 rhino horns. Seventy-one (71) unlicensed firearms used in the commission of these wildlife crimes were also seized.

I should further indicate that assets worth forty-one million Namibian Dollars (N\$41m) were recovered through investigative efforts, in line with the provisions of the Prevention of Organized Crime Act (POCA), 2004 (Act No 29 of 2004). These assets were forfeited to the State for being proceeds or instrumentalities of crime.

For FY 2019/2020, the Ministry planned to conduct joint cross-border operations with neighbouring Angola, Botswana, South Africa and Zambia,

and re-deploy members for the anti-poaching operations, namely Operations Yesa Ongava in Etosha National Park, the Elephant Tusk Operation at the Bwabwata National Park in Kavango East and Zambezi Regions, and the Preserve our Rhinos Operation at Palmwag Concession, as well as to increase the number of simultaneous national anti-crime operations. However, due to the insufficient budget allocation, it will be unavoidable for the Ministry to scale down some of these operations.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,**

On road safety matters, although a considerable reduction in serious and fatal accidents during the preceding financial year was observed, accidents on our national roads continue to be a serious concern.

The Ministry plans to acquire modern traffic law enforcement operational equipment to intensify traffic law enforcement activities. These efforts will also be supplemented by the national Joint Law enforcement on the B1 and B2 roads and the Trans Kalahari Corridor Operations with neighbouring countries.

**Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,**

On the commitments to international, regional and bilateral cooperation, I am pleased to inform that Namibia continues to maintain excellent cooperation with other countries and organisations. However, our continuous participation will seriously be undermined by the lack of financial resources. These are platforms where initiatives to combat cross-border and trans-national organised crimes are discussed; hence the non-participation will have a negative effect on crime combating efforts and maintenance of global peace

and security. The Ministry has signed Agreement on the Transfer of Convicted Offenders with Angola and Zambia to allow offenders from these neighbouring countries to serve their sentences in their countries of origin and for Namibians to serve theirs at home. This does not only enhance the chances of their rehabilitation, but also promotes healthy family ties which are important upon release from incarceration.

I would like to inform this house that the Ministry has managed to recruit a number of staff in order to roll-out the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy to four other Correctional Facilities. This will help the Ministry to reach a bigger pool of high risk offenders to participate in cognitive based structured programmes. The Ministry has also trained a number of staff in the Gender Responsive Programmes with the assistance of Canadian Correctional Service to impart skills in dealing with female offenders particularly as we envisage to open the Female Correctional Centre here in Windhoek very soon.

With the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, a number of staff were trained in the Nelson Mandela Rules with the aim to improve compliance to the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of offenders.

At this juncture, let me register gratitude to my Deputy Minister, the Inspector General, the Commissioner General and the entire uniformed members who works around the clock and accomplishing so much, under difficult conditions with less resources. I also want to acknowledge the hard work of the Executive Director and all staff members for excellent coordination and allocation of the scare resources of the Ministry of Safety and Security.

In conclusion, I am submitting to this August House, an overview of the current budget allocation for Vote 06 as follow:

Programmes for Vote 06	Amount per Programme
Combating of Crime	3 753 255 000
Training and Development	84 794 000
VIP's Protection	529 509 000
Information and Communication Technology	64 104 000
Forensic Science Services	25 328 000
Safety Custody	801 225 000
Rehabilitation and Re-integration	10 834 000
Co-ordination and Support services	281 982 000
Total:	5 550 941 000

The table above gives a total of five billion, five hundred and fifty million, nine hundred and forty one thousand Namibian Dollars budget allocated to the Ministry of Safety and Security for 2019/2020 Financial year.

I humbly submit this to you, Hon Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and to all Honourable Members for your consideration.

I THANK YOU!