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## PARLIAMENT OFFICE

## Budget Speech of Hon A.R.Tjihuiko NUDO Chief Whip 08 March 2012

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Hon: Speaker, Hon Members, the Hon Minster of Finance presented once again her annual budget with her known trade mark unfulfilled promises of wealth and jobs. For  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ 

In her Speech, she concentrate on four core areas for fiscal policy during the Medium –term Expenditures Framework (MTEF)

- First, she said we have to continue entrenching macroeconomic stability by ensuring that our fiscal operation remains on a sustainable path. While our deficit reach alarming 27% of National Domestic Product.
- Secondly, that the budget is unrelenting in its resources allocation to priority economic and infrastructure sectors, with the objective of placing the economy on a high to depart from the episode of jobless growth. By any measure, unemployment and poverty levels remain unacceptable high. But billions through TIPEEG which was not spending because regions were not capacitate to deal with multitude of TIPEEG. Another SWAPO trade mark of throwing money to problem without proper planning.
- Thirdly, the Hon: Minister went on and informs the public out there that, the 2012/13 budget summons the venerable duty of individual offices, Ministries and Agencies to reduce wastage and to waste neither time nor energy to implement programmes and to realize internal efficiency and value for money. The measures mean public

Having said that Hon: Speaker, the core massage emanating from the first year of TIPEEG Implementation is that more money per se does not guarantee success

• Fourth, the Minister said the budget deploys resources to strategic infrastructure development projects to facilitate

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regional trade and to expand our domestic production frontiers. This one is indeed commendable. — Rock through

Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, you must have noticed that through the Hon: Minister Speech of all most two hours, The Minister did not mention, not once the number of jobs that was created through TIPEEG. How you that the main maps of the sectors in which the money was spend, areas, regions or constituencies and number of created jobs was kept as a Minister top secret. One would therefore assume that the 73.1% (N\$ 5.9 billion) must have been spend on what we called "Suite" business

Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members the reported limiting factors according to the Minister of Finance which hinder smooth implementation of TIPEEG were as following.

- Scarcity of engineering capacity in regard of project preparation. If that was the case, which is helping regions, constituencies, departments and Ministries, not only to prepare project but to monitor the Implementation process at those levels?
- The second limiting factor is the limited implementation and monitoring capacity at offices / ministries and agencies (O / M / AS) level. Inc officer work put in place to receip this convented Submetice

Hon: Speaker, the biggest problems facing this great nation of ours, is lack of proper planning. For the last 22 years, SWAPO has consistently refused to accept the reality that good things only happened through painstaking process of planning.

• A transparent, inclusive, well thought out plan is the only vehicle that would help us to jumpstart economic growth, job creation and poverty elimination.



 Let us pose for a moment, re-visit our strategy, review our way of doing things and in the interest of our beautiful country, develop a strategy that would work

**On Agriculture**: The construction of an agronomic irrigation project for the production of horticultural, food crops, processing and the marketing and of silos and cold storage facilities for strategic food reserves is a must.

Hon Speaker, Hon Members the Government effort in encouraging our people to get to the land, to produce enough food for our own consumption and the surplus for export has the support of any sound minded Namibian. I sincerely hope that the expected output at Sikondo, Shandikongoro, Ndomalinena, and Uhuvngu-Vungu dairy farm, Etunda phases 5, 6, 7 and 8 will measure with the huge investment put in to those areas.

I am also happy to hear that 3000 tons Tsandi silo is completed and Omuthiya, Okongo silo was ungraded from 500 to 3000 tons.

As much as I'm excited about the good news I'm equally worried about one thing and that is, when we produce at our capacity filled our silos, what would we do with surplus products?

In the budget of Ministry of Agricultural, Ministry of Work and Transport and the Ministry of Trade and Industry I did not see budget provision for purchasing of suitable vehicles to transport perishable product, from production sites or silos to the markets.

Neither did I come across budget provision that would cater specifically for the promotion of local produce into the market.

Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, I asking these Questions, because it is known facts that locally produce products are finding it difficult to find a market shelve space.

Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, we all know that most of supermarkets in Namibia are subsidiary or branches of South African based Supermarkets. They are therefore buying in bulk in South Africa and then distributed products to their branches in Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and others African countries.

With the current tender board there sees not be provision in the tender board that gives references to locally produced products. Therefore our product will be subjected to compete with highly subsidized Agricultural products from outside Namibia. Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, our Government seems not to have an idea or strategy to discriminate infavour of locally produced products.

In otherwords, the billions that we are spending on the Green Scheme products, if we are not carefully can easily became a project that would produce for the dustbin.

Hon: Speaker, Hon Members, before I conclude, let me briefly touch on the burning issue or the much talked about 20ha land allocation. Hon: Speaker, we all know that the war of resistance and liberation was not about flying the Namibian flag; neither was about having a black president.

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The war that was led by our forefathers and mothers, and pay with their lives, a war that led to the genocide against the Herero's and Nama's, was about land, our land, the land that was taken away from our people at the barrel of the gun. Our people became very poor because the lost the most previous source of income, namely land.

Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, our people accepted the 1992 land conference resolutions with heavy hearts. In the interest

of peace and reconciliation they accepted that, the land they found for, the land of their forefathers was legally and officially given to murderers and colonizers at silver plate and we were left with Bantu stan , reservates now know called communal land or areas.

The living conditions of people in this Bantu stans is still the same, the only thing that has changed is names from Hereroland East to Otjozondjupa region, Namaland to Hardap and Karas region etc.

Instead of listening to the call of the people Government is purching forward, forcing people to registered for 20ha.

Without carefully considering the cries of the poor people. Hon: Speaker, Hon: Members, 20ha is and will never be a solution to land problem. 20ha, is infact a recipe for disaster. I would therefore call on Minister \\ Naruseb to stop forcing people to register. That law was passed by this August house. Bring it back to this house do that we can repeal it.

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